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Bus cooperative refuses final compromise offer

Transport Ministry warns Egged against sabotaging soldier plan

Jerusalem Post Staff
The Ministry of Transport warned yesterday against trying to sabotage the plan for soldiers to ride free of charge on interurban lines. An administrative order forcing the cooperative to carry soldiers takes effect tomorrow after its publication today in Reshumot, the Government Gazette.

Egged yesterday refused the Ministry's final compromise offer, suggested to get the bus cooperative to comply voluntarily with the plan. Under this compromise, Egged was to give soldiers full free service on four main lines, while it was to supply partial service on other lines during off-peak hours: that is, between 8.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and from 6.30 p.m. till the end of the day's run.

In two weeks, several more lines

were to be added to the full-service programme, while the full programme was to be implemented by July 1. This compromise was offered to allow Egged to evaluate whether the Ministry's offer of paying 80 per cent of regular fares in the form of a 12.5m. monthly advance was acceptable or not.

In a dramatic gesture, Ministry spokesman Yehiel Amital excused himself from a press conference at Beit Agron at 5.50 p.m. "I'm going to phone the office to see whether a reply from Egged has been received," he said. Ten minutes later, he returned to announce, "Egged has telephoned to say that it refuses the Ministry's final offer."

According to the administrative order, Egged must carry free of charge all members of the regular army and soldiers on compulsory military service, but not soldiers doing their reserve duty. The bus

cooperative may not refuse to transport a soldier as long as there is room on a bus. On the other hand, the privilege of soldiers to proceed to the head of a queue of waiting passengers has been abrogated.

The order applies only to interurban buses designated with three-digit numbers. It does not apply to lines running south of Mithpa Ramon and the Arava Junction.

Transport Ministry director-general Elmad Shilo resorted to vagueness and to quoting the law when asked what the Ministry would do if Egged failed to obey the order. "Any sabotaging of service will mean a breach of the terms of Egged's concession," he said. "Refusal to carry a soldier is like the refusal to carry any other passenger. We can take legal steps either against the cooperative or against individual drivers. We have sanctions, but at the same time we bank on the civic responsibility and maturity of Egged," he said.

Mr. Shilo said that he thought offering Egged 80 per cent of the full fare was very fair and that Defense Ministry economists had thought paying 57 per cent would be adequate. He mentioned the precedent of the railways, which for years have been carrying soldiers free under an arrangement with the army. He also made the point that with passenger loads dropping in recent years, the army deal might actually be a windfall for Egged. "Getting soldiers to use the buses during three years of compulsory service trains them to remain loyal to the cooperative in later civilian life," he said.

Mr. Shilo stressed that the offer of paying Egged 12.5m. a month was temporary and that the final payment would be adjusted to more accurate tabulations of actual bus use by soldiers. "I'm astounded at Egged's refusal of all our offers, and I do not even mention the moral aspects of the matter," he concluded.

Egged's secretariat yesterday elected a three-man committee to study the legal aspects of the problem, which might include going to the High Court of Justice.

Egged officials warned the Ministry of Transport it could not be ready on such short notice to carry the greater number of passengers. They emphasized they would need more buses, which were not available, and that a 12.5m. monthly advance would be closer to reality than the 12.5m. offered.

Yosef Harari of the Egged secretariat told journalists Egged would obey the injunction if it lost the legal battle. But he warned that having to comply with the regular traveller suffering hardship "all this because of the personal prestige of the Minister of Transport, Gad Ya'acobi, who announced something without checking to see whether it could be carried out in time," he said.



Against a backdrop of Israel flag, Moshe Dayan releases a pigeon at the Israel Solidarity march in London yesterday. Dayan released 12 birds, one for each of the Tribes of Israel, as an expression of hope for peace between nations and people. (AP radiophoto)

Salute to Israel in London and Paris

By MARK SEGAL
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — The biggest Jewish gathering ever held in Britain took place yesterday in solidarity with Israel.

The cavernous Earls Court Hall rang to thunderous applause as Moshe Dayan told 20,000 people at the "Salute to Israel" rally that this mass demonstration of support was an act of faith with Israel's right for survival. The President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Lord Fisher, asked Dayan to take a message back that the 10,000 Jews of Britain "are united with the Jews of Israel and this unity is now and for evermore."

The rally followed a parade of 4,000 youths through the streets of London, waving Israeli flags, riding on floats and singing Hebrew songs. As it started, Dayan released 12 pigeons, one for each tribe of Israel, as an expression of hope for peace.

Dayan observed that the birds were not the white doves traditionally associated with peace gestures. It was explained to him that white doves could not be relied upon to take flight.

An oblique float led off the parade, while in the hall Dayan evoked rapturous applause when he urged the young people, "Come to Israel." It was one huge outpouring of

Jewish emotion, which found its highlight in the rapturous standing ovations accorded Dayan. One audience member broke out after a Herut member shouted through a loud hailer, "We demand the right to settle in all parts of Eretz Yisrael." Security men moved in and fighting broke out but quickly subsided.

A small demonstration of Palestinian Arabs and Matsepen members protested "Zionist oppression in Palestine" and distributed leaflets mocking Dayan as "the half blind leading the blind." Young Jews roughed them up and threw them out.

Jack Maurice adds:
In Paris, some 50,000 French Jews yesterday demonstrated their support for Israel by attending a special "fair" at which popular entertainers and choirs sang, politicians lectured, and organizations sponsored booths.

The "12 Hours for Israel" fair was organized by the French UJA and its central welfare fund, the FSJU. It reportedly was the largest public demonstration of support for Israel ever held in France during peace time.

Among those who entertained in the city's fair grounds were singers Enrico Macias and Rita Zarah. Among the politicians was former French Premier Pierre Mendès-France.

'Israel's firm stand on Golan paid off'

By DAVID LANDAU
Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Taking its cue from Foreign Minister Allon, the Cabinet yesterday gave itself a pat on the back following the Security Council's extension of the UNDOF mandate with no political "strings" attached.

Allon reported — and the other ministers apparently concurred — that Israel's firm stance opposing any political "linkage" to the renewal had paid off, and the Syrians had backed down from any demands they may have been planning to make.

The Security Council extended the mandate on Friday for a further six months.

Allon recalled the official message he had received from UN Secretary-General Waldheim on Thursday, transmitted by UN Coordinator, Gen. Emilo Sillanvuo, announcing Syria's agreement to the renewal "with no political strings attached."

Israel's own agreement to the renewal had been conditional upon the absence of political "linkage".

As regards the Security Council resolution itself, officials here pointed to several "achievements" for Israel in the wording of the text:

- Resolution 338 is again referred to. In the UNDOF mandate renewal resolution of six months ago there was no reference to Syria's insistence on Resolution 338 (which speaks of negotiations between the parties for an overall peace).
- The Palestinian problem is not referred to. In the renewal resolution six months ago the mandate extension was linked — on Syria's insistence — to a subsequent Security Council debate on the Palestinian problem, in which the PLO was invited to participate.
- The reference to "all relevant UN resolutions," which was included in the renewal resolution six months ago — on Syria's insistence — is removed from the new resolution. Syria and other Arab states claimed at that time that the phrase referred to General Assembly resolutions, some of which took a pro-PLO line, as well as earlier Security Council resolutions.

Peres solution: Confederation

NEW YORK. — Defense Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview with "Time" magazine that he foresees a political solution for the West Bank through a confederation of Israel, the West Bank and Jordan.

He explained that there would be two levels of government: regional, like states in America, and the other a national government. He said that most matters would be decided at the regional level, but that defence and foreign affairs would be in the hands of the national government.

to the Palestinian problem or other issues that Israel considered "extraneous."

Allon indicated that Israel would ignore the letter which Dr. Waldheim is understood to have written to Syrian President Assad. In his letter Dr. Waldheim apparently noted that the mandate renewal would facilitate Security Council discussion of the Palestinian problem and other broader Middle East issues of interest to Syria.

Israel had not been informed of any such letter, Allon said, nor had Waldheim or the Syrians publicly referred to it. As far as Israel was officially concerned therefore, the letter did not exist.

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Civil war's worst clashes in Lebanon

Urgent bid for peace talks

BEIRUT. — Violent battles raged across Lebanon's capital and countryside yesterday, plunging the country into some of the worst fighting of the 15-month civil war. Militia leaders held urgent meetings to try to halt the escalation before it wrecked President-elect Elias Sarkis' attempts to convene peace talks, now delayed by weeks.

The leaders' parley seemed to have some effect as, by midday, combat in Beirut and the northern Akkar region, where leftist army troops besieged two Christian towns, died down to sporadic clashes.

More than 1,000 heavy mortar shells fell on the eastern, western and southern sectors of the city in 24 hours, leaving about 113 dead and 230 wounded — most of them civilians.

The casualties included 25 dead and 40 wounded when mortars ripped through a crowded vegetable market in the Sabra refugee camp in southeastern Beirut, and five injured by shrapnel when shells landed on the Hotel Dieu hospital in the Christian-held eastern sector.

Troops of the Lebanese Army's rebel leftist faction maintained their four-day siege of Kobayat and Andekiet, near the Syrian border north-east of Tripoli. Rightist spokesmen charged more than 200 houses in the Christian villages had been destroyed by leftist shelling and appealed to Syrian President Hafez Assad for "urgent intervention to save us from being massacred."

The deterioration in the situation on the ground came as signs emerged of differing views on each side of the conflict — among the Christians and within the leftist-Palestinian alliance.

Palestinian and leftist leaders condemned the leftist troops' attack and said it had begun without the leftist leadership's knowledge.

Socialist chief Kamal Jumblatt said the towns have "strategic significance" and the attack "would not serve the national interest or the interests of the national (leftist) movement."

Palestinian chief Salah Khalaf, Yasser Arafat's second-in-command in the Fatah, accused leftist army commander Maj. Ahmed al-Masari of initiating the attack and appealed for an urgent truce to ward off the possibility of Syrian intervention. Maj. al-Masari is a commander in the breakaway "Lebanese Arab Army" which the PLO and the leftists themselves have been supporting.

The independent newspaper An-Nahar reported that sophisticated Soviet-made missiles were used in a major upsurge of fighting after 10 days of undeclared truce.

During the night rockets flashed in groups of three or four bright red specks across the sky over the southeast suburbs of Beirut, where

Muslim districts lie next to Christian-dominated foothills.

Sarkis told the Arab League yesterday he was not authorised yet to agree to an Arab League meeting at any level to try to stop the civil war.

Sarkis, in a message to Arab League Secretary-General Mahmoud Riad, said he could not take a decision because he had not taken over constitutional powers. He promised to continue his efforts to reconcile the various factions in the war.

The head of Lebanon's Communist Party said yesterday that Russia opposes the Syrian intervention in the civil war here and this will be a prime subject for Premier Alexi Kosygin during his visit to Damascus.

George Hawi, whose party is fighting on the leftist side, ridiculed right-wing suggestions that the "international left" is prolonging the Lebanese conflict, particularly Soviet-backed Communism.

He said in an interview with the English-language "Internal Affairs of Lebanon" magazine: "It has become public knowledge that the Soviet Union, which is keen on safeguarding its relations with Syria, stands against the Syrian military involvement in Lebanon."

Hawi said Kosygin will bring this stand up during his talks scheduled to begin on Thursday with President Hafez Assad of Syria. The Soviet Premier is on an official visit to Iraq, after which he will move on to Syria.

In Baghdad, Kosygin and Iraqi President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr met yesterday to discuss inter-Arab relations and the strengthening of ties with the Soviet Union, the Iraqi news agency said.

(UPI, AP, Reuters)

Syria-Egypt mediation to resume

KUWAIT. — The foreign ministers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will fly to Cairo and Damascus early next week to resume their mediation efforts between Egypt and Syria, it was officially announced here yesterday.

Minister of State Abdel Aziz Hussein said following a meeting of the Kuwaiti Cabinet, that Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Jaber and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal will meet President Sadat of Egypt in Cairo tomorrow, and President Hafez Assad of Syria in Damascus on Wednesday.

He said the two ministers will carry a "tentative working paper for ending the dispute between Egypt and Syria over Egypt's Sinai agreement with Israel."

(AP)

King Hussein trying to keep political equilibrium

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The soundings made by King Hussein of Jordan in the Soviet Union about the possibility of purchasing Russian ground-to-air missiles and other weaponry are seen in Jerusalem as an effort by the Hashemite monarch to reach a state of political equilibrium in his relations between East and West.

According to a Cabinet source, Hussein may go as far as to consummate purchases, but he will not cross the dividing line separating a predominant orientation to the West and a predominant orientation to the East. The monarch and conservative nature of his regime, and the non-socialist nature of his economy and his society, will not permit him to identify with the Soviet Union, though they need not prevent him from doing business. The Cabinet source said that Saudi

Arabia and Kuwait have too much influence over Hussein, and have him too much in their debt since 1967, to permit him to turn his back on the West.

The prospect of a Russo-Jordanian arms transaction is something which Israel can do little about, it is felt in Jerusalem. Hussein will not be influenced by Israeli statements that "it doesn't really matter who rules in Amman" — the alternatives being Hussein or the Palestinians.

Israel's policy has always been to relate to the rulers in power in the surrounding Arab capitals as a fact of life; in Egypt, for example, from Farouk through Nasser and Sadat. Hence if a Palestinian were to rule in Amman, and not a Hashemite, Israel would have to work out a pragmatic relationship with the new regime, the view is held in Jerusalem.

Histadrut to oppose cut in subsidies, C-o-L

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The Histadrut yesterday served notice it will oppose any cut in government subsidies to basic commodities before October and any reduction in the cost-of-living allowance due then.

Secretary-General Yerusham Meshel told the Central Committee here yesterday that "several months ago an explicit agreement had been signed (with the government) providing that the prices of subsidized commodities be stable at least until October."

Meshel also said the labour federation will not negotiate any cut in the increase due in the cost-of-living allowance in October.

As present employees are compensated for 70 per cent of price rises, some reports said yesterday the Treasury did not want to compensate workers for price rises arising from a cut in subsidies and imposition of Value Added Tax.

This means they will be compensated for only 35-40 per cent of the price rises, it was estimated.

The labour federation and the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations had signed a four-year agreement over the cost-of-living allowance at the Finance Minister's office here, last August 1.

The government went along with this agreement. Meshel who presents this agreement as one of his most important achievements and who claims the C-o-L allowance is an important instrument for protecting workers in time of inflation, is expected to put up a hard fight to prevent eroding it, should such an attempt be made.

The Secretary-General said yesterday that the Central Committee will hold a special meeting to discuss economic and social policies. Prime Minister Rabin will attend the meeting. No date had been set for the meeting.

When's the last time you joined in a parade?

Calling all U.S. Veterans in or out of uniform to march from Wolfson Towers in Jerusalem to the Hebrew U. Stadium at 2 p.m. on July 4 for formal Bicentennial Ceremonies.

Please contact Tel. 03-222488 or 03-475614 and let us know you're coming.

Kaddum issue still frozen

Jerusalem Post Reporter
No visible progress has been made so far on the Government's much-publicised decision of May 9 to shift the Kaddum settlement group of Gush Etzion to a new site.

The Committee of Ministers on Settlement has not met in the three weeks which have elapsed. No member of the Committee, or other Government representative, has visited Kaddum to air proposals for a fresh site, according to a reliable political source in regular touch with Gush Etzion.

Mamam's Victor Shemtov, the Minister of Health, asked Prime Minister Rabin at yesterday's Cabinet session whether anything had been done to implement the Cabinet decision over the past three weeks. Rabin replied that he had said on May 9 that "a number of weeks

would be required" and this period had not yet expired.

The Committee on Settlement has not yet met. One Cabinet source said, because its chairman Yisrael Galili has not yet worked out proposals. The source said that if Galili by-passed the Committee and took his eventual proposals direct to the full Cabinet instead, this would not disturb Cabinet precedent and would not disturb the protagonists.

A Mamam source told The Post last night that the decision could not yet be considered as deliberate procrastination on Galili's part but it was "getting close to the verge."

Yesterday's Cabinet session was the second successive meeting in which Premier Rabin and Defence Minister Shimon Peres forbore to bicker, it was learned. Their mutual comments were described as "polite without being more than cordial."

Ship turned back because of barbecue

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — The Zim freighter Kesarya which left Eilat for the Far East with 7,000 tons of cargo last Thursday has been turned back by her captain. He radioed that discipline on board had broken down and he therefore decided on the unusual step of returning a fully-laden ship. She is due back in Eilat today.

It was learned that the troubles broke out between the master, Captain Amnon Tadmor and the Bosun, Aharon Zuckerman. The two already had a dispute in the past, and in one case Zuckerman was fined IL900 on disciplinary charges.

Apparently the reason that the captain turned back the ship was the holding of a barbecue on the deck — considered a danger to the ship's safety. Zim, the Transport Ministry and the Marine Officers' Union, are to start an investigation when the ship returns.

Soviets to replace Kalatchnikov

NEW YORK. — "Newsweek" says the Soviet Union is working on a new rifle that will replace its Kalatchnikov AK-47, which it describes as the most widely used assault weapon in the world.

In its forthcoming issue, the news weekly says the new Soviet weapon is lighter than the AK-47, has improved hitting power and carries 90 cartridges in its "banana clip." The AK-47 clip carries 30 cartridges.

According to "Newsweek" U.S. intelligence analysts believe that the cartridges of the new Russian rifle do not have metal casings. This, the magazine says, is the first time such a saving in weight has been achieved in the making of rifle ammunition.

\$102m. U.S. aid deal for Egypt

CAIRO. — Egypt and the United States yesterday signed a \$102m. aid package under the economic assistance programme of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

A U.S. official said \$95m. will be used to construct a 300 megawatt power station on the west bank of Great Bitter Lake in the Suez Canal. "This assistance is for continued industrial expansion and urban rehabilitation in the Suez urban living conditions and to contribute to the general reconstruction of the Suez Canal area," an A.I.D. spokesman said.

Linkage of pound is questioned

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter
Economic experts in Jerusalem yesterday questioned the wisdom of linking the pound to a basket of currencies, as advocated by the Bank of Israel and included in the proposed currency law to be approved by the Cabinet shortly.

They based their opinion on Treasury figures — obtained by The Jerusalem Post — which show that 80 per cent of export revenues are in U.S. dollars.

The "basket" proposed by the Bank of Israel includes 40 per cent U.S. dollars. Thus, a devaluation when the pound is linked to the basket would have to be at a higher rate — twice as high as devaluations at present. There is no need for the basket, which will force the Government to devalue more than under the present system with the pound linked to the dollar, say the experts.

It is true that in the present system the pound hardly depreciates compared to the Italian lira and the pound Sterling (which deprecates compared to the dollar). However, since export revenues in Sterling amount to only 5.6 per cent, and revenues in lire to 0.3 per cent, the damage is minimal, compared to what it would be were the pound linked to the proposed basket.

Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev stated last week that if export revenues in dollars were found to exceed 70 per cent, there would be no reason to link the pound to the proposed basket.

The suggested currency law to be discussed by the Cabinet enables, but does not force, changing the linkage of the pound from the dollar to the basket.

More guerrillas killed in Rhodesia as OAU committee to begin discussions in Tanzania

SALISBURY. — Rhodesian security forces have killed seven more black nationalist guerrillas, bringing to 37 the number killed in the past five days. It was announced here on Sunday. The announcement came as preparations were being made in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, for a meeting of the liberation committee of the Organization of African Unity starting tomorrow.

The intensifying guerrilla war in Rhodesia is expected to dominate the OAU discussions. Other subjects are expected to be the guerrilla war in South West Africa (Namibia) and the future of the French territory of the Afars and Issas.

The security headquarters in Salisbury gave no more details on the latest clash except to say that one member of the security forces was wounded and that "substantial quantities of terrorist war material have been captured."

So far this month, 103 guerrillas and 23 Rhodesian soldiers were reported killed, making it the bloodiest month in the escalating guerrilla warfare.

A total of 393 guerrillas, operating from bases in neighbouring Mozambique, have been killed since the war began in December 1972, including 253 this year alone. Over the same period, a total of 112 Rhodesian troops have died in action, 37 of them this year including 18 this month.

The last liberation committee meeting in Maputo (formerly Lourenco Marques) in January coincided with the beginning of a new guerrilla offensive in Rhodesia and in the last few months the nationalists have significantly stepped up their military campaign.

Constitutional talks between Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith and black nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo broke down in March but almost all hope of a negotiated settlement had been lost before then.

The guerrilla war has been simmering in Rhodesia since 1972 but in recent months nationalist military activity has reached unprecedented levels with attacks deep inside the country.

The liberation committee will review these latest military developments as well as the continued bitter feuding between two factions of the Rhodesian African National Council (ANC).

But informed sources said the committee was unlikely to make any major policy changes in this area. The situation is reasonably satisfactory from the committee's point of view because the political divisions do not appear to be impairing the military campaign, now accepted as the only way to liberation.

Although the liberation committee is angered by the continued ANC split, committee executive secretary Hashim Mkhwa recently called on nationalist leaders to stop speech-making and concentrate on the liberation struggle — the sources denied earlier reports that it would choose between one of the factions or come out in favour of the guerrillas in the field, who it is believed might be developing political aspirations of their own.

The liberation committee is not

in a position to make such a decision which would be like interference in the internal political affairs of a country, the sources said.

In any case they pointed out that the developments in the Rhodesian situation were being handled at a higher level than the liberation committee by the Presidents of Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania, who are specially charged with responsibility for the problem by the OAU.

The liberation committee will also be reviewing the situation in Namibia. Since the committee last met the Angolan war has ended with a victory for the left wing MPLA and this has been a favourable development for SWAPO (South West African Peoples Organisation) which can now use bases in Angola just over the Namibian border.

The committee meeting will also hear the report of the OAU's special fact finding mission to the territory of the Afars and Issas whose approaching independence has caused considerable friction between Ethiopia and Somalia. (Reuters, AP)

FOR A STRONG ECONOMY
ISRAEL BONDS

THIS WEEK

Lottery Draw 22/76
Minimum first prize fund
IL550,000
accumulating with carryover up to
IL1,000,000

TODAY is the last day
for handling in Lotte entries
*Subject to recruiting.

Treasury plans new measures to accomplish budget aims

By GIDION ESHET
Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter

THE TREASURY'S experts are in the final stages of evaluating the current economic situation and outlining additional measures aimed at accomplishing the targets of the national budget.

The chief measures concern preserving the IL35.2b. state budget for the current fiscal year. They will include absorption of IL1.5b. of increased costs within the existing ministries' budgets, a IL2b. cut from already-approved expenditures, and advancing the cuts in Government subsidies for basic commodities from October to August.

The Finance Minister has already approved (and publicly announced) the decision that all ministries absorb the cost increases, and will bring this to the Cabinet early in June. The reason for this is the revised estimate of price rises during the current year: the budget had been based on an estimate of 25 per cent, while current estimates put price rises at 32 per cent for the year.

This means the ministries would have to spend IL1,500m. more than has been allocated to carry out the same programmes. Absorbing the higher costs will mean cutbacks in the programmes.

The Defence Ministry, which gets the largest share of the state budget, has always been the strongest opponent of absorption of higher costs, as it has the most to lose. Unlike other ministries, however, the Defence Ministry has obtained the entire amount to account for the estimated 25 per cent increase at the beginning of the fiscal year — on condition that it make no further claims for higher costs later in the year. In the first month of the fiscal year costs rose by nearly six per cent.

BUDGET CUTS
The proposal to cut IL2,000m. from the budget is more sensitive, politically. Treasury officials, however, point out that this is a must if national budget targets are to be reached.

They stress that unemployment has not grown sufficiently. Unemployment should reach a figure of 50,000 to 60,000 to create the needed pressure for a shift from services to industry. According to Moshe Mandelbaum, Director-General of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, shortage of industrial labour is the main obstacle to further export growth.

Another reason for the cuts, say the experts, is to keep the Government's deficit at IL3,000m. as planned. Its revenues are falling below the forecast, because of a shortfall in sales of bonds after their linkage to the index was curtailed to 90 per cent in December.

But Treasury officials have admitted that no less important a consideration for the cut was U.S. pressure. While the U.S. has agreed to cover Israel's economic needs with \$500m. aid, it is reluctant to cover defence costs at their current level, and is pressuring Israel to show its population is sharing in the burden. A cut in both Government and private consumption is seen as meeting the American demand.

Treasury officials last night denied there was a plan to effect such a cut. They said the Finance Minister feels absorbing the IL1,500m. increase would be a "working paper."

CUTTING CONSUMPTION
The budget cut will affect private consumption, but not enough to reduce it by 3 per cent, as prescribed by the Government. The latest estimates show that consumption is unlikely to change in 1976 compared to 1975 — or will decline by 1 per cent, at most.

This is seen as the main "punishment" in the Government policy this year, and Treasury officials hope instituting Value Added Tax, with the higher prices it will bring about, will reduce real income at people's disposal, and therefore reduce consumption.

They are also still discussing

plans to amend the tax laws, to keep the tax base at its present level in October, after cost-of-living increments are paid. The tax base is supposed to rise in the same proportion as the price index, according to the law.

Real disposable income, which rose by 14 per cent in the third quarter of 1975, has been declining since then — but not sufficiently. It declined by 6 per cent in the fourth quarter, by 2 per cent in this year's first quarter, and will decline only by an estimated 1 per cent in the current quarter. Meanwhile, private consumption grew by 4.5 per cent at the end of last year, and by 1 per cent in the first three months of this year — as people used savings instead of the declining income.

SUBSIDIES CUTS
Cutting the subsidies in October, as originally planned, would raise the prices of basic commodities by an average of 25 per cent — more for milk and its products, less for oil and others. The Treasury wants to advance the cuts to August, producing an average price rise of 20 per cent, instead.

The cuts are needed in order to make do with the IL1,500m. allocated in the budget for subsidies. (If prices were unchanged through 1976, the subsidy budget would have to be IL2,400m.).

The Histadrut has already criticized this plan — saying it will stand firm on unchanged prices until October, as had originally been agreed between it and the Government.

Economists in Jerusalem tend to support the Histadrut stand — though for different reasons. They say it would be in the Government's interest to wait, so that the C-o-L allowance increase in October would be smaller. If the cuts are effected in August, prices will go up and the price index will rise, forcing a higher C-o-L increment. If prices only rise in October, they will only be reflected in the C-o-L increase next April, they point out.

25 European MPs to hold meeting here

Jerusalem Post Staff

Twenty-five parliamentarians from 13 different countries — all members of the agricultural commission of the Council of Europe — arrived yesterday in Israel, prior to holding the commission's annual meeting today in Jerusalem.

This is the first time in the commission's history that the commission is holding its annual meeting outside the European continent. The meeting will be held at the Knesset.

The council has 15 member states, plus one country with observer status — Israel. It possesses a number of professional commissions, on subjects like ecology, legal problems and municipal affairs.

The agricultural commission is composed of members of parliament from Austria, Ireland, England, Belgium, West Germany, Holland, Turkey, Greece, Luxembourg, Norway, France, Sweden and Switzerland. Commission chairman is John Farr of the U.K.

The agenda includes safety and health for farm workers, productivity in agriculture and planning of an advanced international centre for Mediterranean agronomy. Reuven Eiland, Director-General of the Ministry of Agriculture, will address the group.

After the meeting, the commission will tour the country to review agricultural developments. The visit, arranged by the Foreign Ministry, will end next Sunday.

Yeshayahu in Norway

The Speaker of the Knesset, Yisrael Yeshayahu, who is visiting Norway as a guest of the Norwegian Parliament, paid a courtesy call on G. Hennsen, Speaker of the Norwegian Parliament, in Oslo.

During a conversation with Foreign Minister Knut Fryden-Lund, it was noted that only a short time was devoted at the NATO foreign ministers' meeting to Middle East problems. The Knesset Speaker thanked the Government of Norway for granting "most favoured nation" status to Israel. The hope was expressed that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yigal Alon, whose visit to Norway was postponed last year, would soon be able to make the visit.

Druse schools plan one-day strike

DALIAH AL-CARAMEL — Three schools in this Druse village will be closed tomorrow in protest against lack of facilities, the chairman of the parents' association, Author Salman Nahir, said here yesterday.

He said the schools which accommodate 1,800 pupils, lack classrooms, libraries and laboratories; and two of them have no sports fields. The sports field that does exist in one school is dangerous, he said, and four students have been injured there this year.

The problem was brought before the Knesset Education Committee three months ago, but there has been no response, Nahir said. (Itim)

Custody extended for Gilkrov suspects

TEL AVIV — Two suspects in the fatal shooting of Shimon Gilkrov in a Sportoto agency in the Shapira Quarter here on May 10 were remanded into 15 days' further custody in Magistrates Court here yesterday.

Gad Plasm and Amos Masika were held in a case which police said involved three persons. They said the underworld had developed a plan for the men — but had one of them in two places at the same time on the night of the murder.

On Friday, Shmuya Angel, a suspect who had been arrested and released, was re-arrested and remanded into 15 days' custody. (Itim)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nahshon Bakery fined IL22,000

BEERSHEBA — The Nahshon Bakery and its owner Leon Berger were fined IL22,000 in Magistrates Court here yesterday, for 20 counts of selling contaminated bread.

The 20 complaints included cases of insects in the bread, mould, droppings, balls of thread, and sour dough. The judge said he was being lenient because Berger admitted the charges and saved the court time. Judge Yitzhak Banai therefore permitted the baker to pay the bakery's IL15,000 fine and his own IL7,000 fine in three instalments.

Berger, earlier this year, was the first person in Israel to be given a prison sentence by a Labour Court — for employing minors illegally. (The sentence was later suspended on appeal.) Berger also was charged last year with defrauding the Government out of IL3m. in bread subsidies, and with tax evasion on income of more than IL10m. — believed to be the largest tax evasion case in Israel. That case is still pending. (Itim)

Lotto winner sues agency

HAIFA — A man who chose a winning Lotto number yesterday filed suit against the owners of the agency where he bought his ticket — because they forgot to turn in his stub.

Shlomo Shariki of Netanya is demanding IL285,000 from Tel Aviv and Arye Ferdinand, since he couldn't get the prize from the central Lotto agency. The total prize was IL500,000, but two other persons chose the winning figures, and the sum was to be divided among the three. The amount he demanded includes IL20,000 for the suffering and other expenses the incident has caused him. (Itim)

Kfir to go on show abroad

BEN-GURION AIRPORT — Israel's Kfir war plane will be shown in public for the first time outside Israel at the Farnborough Air Show in Britain in September, Elikana Gali, sales manager of Israel Aircraft Industries, announced here yesterday.

Gali said the show's organizers insisted on making room for the Kfir, although all the exhibition space had already been rented, because they considered it "the attraction of the year." The Kfir will be one of 100 planes shown at the show, in which 400 firms involved in aircraft manufacture will take part. (Itim)

Nine years for cafe shooting

TEL AVIV — A 24-year-old man was sentenced to nine years in prison by District Court judges here yesterday for wounding two youths with a handgun in the Athens cafe last July.

Nissim Daboush was charged with attempt to murder, but the court ruled that the intention had not been proven and convicted him of causing grievous bodily injury and possessing a firearm without a licence.

Daboush entered the cafe, on Herbert Samuel Pier, last July 16, asked someone to call Hananya Ohana over, and shot both Ohana and Victor Barada in their legs. The motive for the shooting was not discovered in court. (Itim)

Six years for holding hashish

TEL AVIV — A local man was convicted of possession of 33 kilograms of hashish and sentenced to six years in prison by a District Court judge here yesterday.

David Czebnick, nicknamed "Rosh (Head)," was the owner of a suitcase full of hashish found on the roof of the building he lives in at the corner of Rehov Weizmann and Rehov Arlosoroff.

Czebnick's girlfriend, Margareta Mazou, received a suspended two-year sentence; and a third suspect, Gil Yehudai, was cleared. (Itim)

Appeal to school principals

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The chairman of the Knesset Education Committee, Avraham Katz, yesterday appealed to the Organization of Elementary School Principals to ease their sanctions against the Education Ministry and to prepare end-of-year report cards. Failure to issue these certificates would cause hardship to pupils applying for admission to junior high or high school, and to those wishing to transfer from one elementary school to another.

Principals and supervisors have started a series of sanctions two months ago in protest against what they term the ministry's failure to upgrade their salaries in line with increases won by teachers. (Itim)

Pharmaceutical firms merge

TEL AVIV — A merger of three pharmaceutical firms, Zori, Assia and Teva, was approved in District Court here yesterday.

Zori and Assia will become part of Teva, retroactive to April 1, 1976. The oldest company is Zori, founded in 1932, with current paid-up capital of IL1.5m.

Teva, set up in 1944, has paid-up capital of IL12m. and registered capital of IL50m., which will be increased to IL75m. (Itim)

Maritime ship held in Germany

HAIFA — The Maritime Fruit Carriers ship Avocado Core has been held up in a German port by a court order obtained by the Israeli oil marketing company, Trans-Asiat, over a debt.

Previously, the same company's Madarim Core was attached and ordered sold in Hawaii at the request of an American creditor. It was learned that seamen serving on the ship have encountered difficulties over pay. (Itim)

Bobover Rebbe here

BEN-GURION AIRPORT — The Rebbe of Bobov, Shlomo Halberstam, arrived here yesterday for a visit and was besieged by singing and dancing hasidim.

The push was so great that El Al officials whisked him off with his family in a car they brought up to the plane on the tarmac. He went from the airport to a reception in his honour at Kiryat Bobov in Bat Yam.

The owner came with followers who filled a Boeing 747 Jumbo jet. They will celebrate the Shavuot holiday here at the end of this week. (Itim)

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair to partly cloudy, with slight rise in temperature.
Weather synopsis: Barometric ridge over Eastern Mediterranean, with weak northeasterly flow over our area.

Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Min-Max
Jerusalem 22	8-26	10-32
Golan 13	8-26	10-28
Nahariya 61	12-24	14-26
Safed 30	14-26	16-28
Haifa Port 68	17-22	17-24
Tiberias 28	15-22	16-24
Nazareth 47	12-28	15-27
Afula 28	12-28	15-27
Shomron 29	12-24	14-26
Tel Aviv 61	16-24	18-26
B.G. Airport 65	11-25	15-30
Jericho 27	14-23	15-25
Gaza 18	14-24	15-26
BeerSheva 18	11-23	14-25
Eilat 15	20-27	20-38
Tirau Straits 12	24-35	25-36

Social and Personal

President Ephraim Katzir yesterday received Ephraim Evron, deputy director-general of the Foreign Ministry, who reported on his meeting with Argentina's President General Videla, whom he visited as President Katzir's emissary.

Rabbi David Hartman will speak (in English) on "Philosophic Reflections on the Ten Commandments," tonight, 8 p.m., at the Hebrew University Forum meeting at the United Synagogue, 4 Rehov Agaron, Jerusalem.

Moshe Tutin, dean of students at the David Yellin Teachers College, Jerusalem, will speak on: "Immigrants — their education and absorption," at a meeting of the Friends of the David Yellin College, Jerusalem branch, on June 6 at 8 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Kronberg, B. Talpott.

The Jerusalem West Rotary Club will hold a business meeting tonight, 7 p.m., at the King David Hotel.

A farewell party for the participants in the courses on rural community development and kindergarten teaching and supervision was held at the Mt. Carmel International Training Centre last night.

IN MEMORIAM

The Netan family of Safad, whose daughter Ilana was killed with 21 others in a terrorist attack on the schoolchildren at Mat'at two years ago, dedicated a Torah scroll in memory to the Torah Moshe Emet Synagogue yesterday. Mayor Aharon Nehmias of Safad and the town's Chief Rabbi David Dayan spoke in memory of the victims.

Israel hoopssters beat Belgians

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter
ACRE — Israel scored its third successive victory in the European Nations basketball cup, beating Belgium 91-75 at Na'aman last night. Half-time score was 49-39.

The Israel team has the hardest part of the competition before it — as it has to play away games against West Germany, Turkey and Belgium. The top squad of the group goes on to the next round in the cup tournament.

Playing before 3,000 fans last night, Israel's squad put on one of their finest performances in recent years, especially in the second half, when they extended their lead to a promising 16 points.

Bombs in Nablus

NABLUS — Three explosions occurred in various parts of Nablus yesterday, causing no injuries but damaging a car belonging to a local notable.

These blasts followed two which occurred over the weekend in Ramallah, where the entrance to a bank was slightly damaged. One of the explosions was outside the home of a man being held in connection with a murder over the recent municipal elections.

Yeshivat Hakotel

records with profound sorrow the passing of

Reb AVRAM b'Reb DOV BER OXENHANDLER ז"ל

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

SUSI SUZANNE BRAND

A Memorial Service and Tombstone Dedication will take place on Tuesday, June 1, 1976, at 3:15 p.m., at the New Cemetery, Kfar Samir, Haifa.

(Meeting at the Cemetery entrance).

On behalf of the family, The bereaved husband, ISRAEL BRAND

I wish to thank all those who expressed their sympathy in writing or in person.

We deeply mourn the passing of

ANNIE LEVY

1, Place Claparède, 1205 Geneva

Head of Geneva Office, Suisse Romande Division-Keren Hayesod
Over a long period of years, Mrs. Levy served Keren Hayesod and Israel with exemplary devotion and distinction.

May her memory long be cherished and remembered.

EZRA Z. SHAPIRO

World Chairman

Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal

NESSIM D. GAON

Chairman, Suisse Romande

Keren Hayesod-Action Israel

Snubbed MKs quit Labour

By ASHER WALLFISH

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

The Druse Deputy Agriculture Minister, Sheikh Jaber Musadi, and the Moslem ex-mayor of Nazareth, Saif e-Din Zuhbi, last week severed their organizational ties with the Alignment Knesset faction to appear independently at the parliamentary level. The break follows a series of snubs from top Alignment personalities. They reportedly announced it in a letter to Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu, which had not arrived by last night.

Musadi and Zuhbi are unlikely to endanger the Coalition's majority in the Knesset, and are expected to vote with the Coalition on all important national policy issues, to the extent that they attend plenum sessions.

Musadi and Zuhbi were not consulted before last week's Cabinet discussion on problems affecting Israel's Arab community.

At Ginossar, Foreign Minister Yigal Alon's home kibbutz, last Wednesday, when the Labour Party's joint Arab-Jewish "coexistence circle" met after the mass inter-community celebrations, the two MKs were not invited. Abba Eban did not invite them the next day

to a similar Arab-Jewish gathering.

They were not advised on developments connected with Premier Yitzhak Rabin's meeting with the delegation of Arab council chairmen last week. They were not invited to the (postponed) meeting scheduled last Saturday for Beit Berl, the Labour Party college, on Arab-Jewish relations.

Musadi and Zuhbi thus decided to revive their old Progress and Development faction, under which they appeared and won two seats in the December 1973 Knesset election. They will now get their party financing directly, to the tune of nearly IL1m. per annum for the two of them, instead of through the Alignment, provided, as is expected, the Knesset House Committee approves their request.

Musadi and Zuhbi reportedly sense that the Alignment has decided not to back them for the next Knesset elections, and is planning to advance younger candidates. Instead of Musadi, the likely man is Kamal Kassem, a Druse intellectual who serves as adviser on minorities to Commerce Minister Haim Bar-Lev. Instead of Zuhbi, the man would be either Tira mayor Tariq Abdel Hal

or the writer Mahmoud Abbasi, a former adviser on Arab youth to Education Minister Aharon Yadin.

The two MKs thought of operating independently as early as January 1974, when they told former Premier Golda Meir they did not like the idea of supporting a Coalition containing the National Religious Party. Subsequently, on several occasions, one as recently as six weeks ago, they told Cabinet Ministers that it would be healthier if they ploughed their own parliamentary furrow.

In the present climate of nationalism in the Arab community, Musadi and Zuhbi feel they can enhance their reputation by cutting their Alignment sponsorship. This would advance their interests, they believe, whether they stand in the next elections or not, and whether they win or lose.

Musadi is disappointed because the transfer of Druse affairs direct to the Government departments involved relieves him of his former role as go-between. Zuhbi is disappointed because he feels he could have won a successful campaign to become mayor again in Nazareth had the Alignment backed him.

equipment abroad.

The committee said management should keep a smaller stock of imported materials and use regular fuel rather than low-sulphur fuel. But a Kupat Holim industrial doctor should check whether the change will affect the workers' health, it was stated.

The committee also called for freezing or cutting additional benefits. Car allowances, for example, will be cut by 15 per cent. The committee also proposed how to improve labour relations.

Ya'acov Ardon adds from Haifa:

The shop committee and the Acre Labour Council are studying the report and will probably explain it today to the foundry workers who have been idle for the past fortnight.

The Steel City management stated yesterday that it had received the report "and is studying its details." Backed by the management of Koor (the holding company of Steel City), "it reaffirms its decision to accept the Histadrut decision. The Steel City management decided that all concerned will act jointly to apply the findings of the Knesset Committee. The true test of the report will be its application at the production level."

Steel City employs 670 workers, 270 of them in the rolling mill.

Steel City management to accept Histadrut ruling on transfers

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — The Histadrut's Department for Productivity Councils will rule on transferring 20 workers from one department to another in Steel City in Acre, the Knesset Committee ruled yesterday in presenting a 15-page report on the plant's troubles.

Management said it will abide by the recommendations. But there

was no immediate reaction from the workers.

The committee, headed by Histadrut Treasurer Yisrael Kessar, examined plans to help the Histadrut-owned enterprise overcome yearly deficits. Last year the mills lost IL22m. During the first four months of 1976, the loss over IL4m.

Management's improvement plans called for transferring 50 workers, mainly from the rolling mill to the foundry. But the workers refused. By yesterday, only eight had been transferred and management and workers agreed that 17-19 maintenance men had to be transferred. However, the workers opposed plans to shift 20-22 production men.

The committee said that "no doubt one of the measures to improve the plant involves cuts in manpower resulting from technological improvements, changes in working procedures and a new examination of manpower needs in the various departments."

It assigned the Department for Productivity Councils to rule on the dispute. The department will also decide how to calculate premiums in the melting shop. The committee ruled, however, that workers should produce "six portions" (327 tons) a day. This is more than the four produced hitherto but less than the seven portions produced with similar

reports on the engineers' wages.

The ministers said the agreement will be in the framework of the recent wage agreements for public and civil servants. These agreements provide for 2.5 per cent wage increases this year and next year.

The engineers are demanding a 24 per cent "average" wage increase. Yesterday the engineers complained the Histadrut was going over their heads to negotiate with the Government.

GAZA SCHOOLCHILDREN will henceforth have to contribute toward the cost of their education, the Ministry of Education has decided. Students will pay school fees ranging from IL24-IL60, text book fees from IL20-IL30, and secondary school children will also pay IL40 examination fees, to a total maximum of IL100 per year. (The ministry estimates that the education of each Gaza schoolchild costs an average of IL 850 a year.

AN ACRE RESIDENT, Albert Amar, 56, yesterday received an exemplary citizenship award from local police for reporting the find of a wallet containing IL25,000 and cheques, left in his car.

ENERGY SHOULD be handled at the parliamentary level by a special Knesset committee, Zalman Shoval (Likud) urged. He urged a letter to the House Committee chairman Ari Ankori.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

Free Carriage of Soldiers on Public Transport

The Goods and Services (Transport of Soldiers) Order, 1976 made by the Minister of Transport on May 30, 1976, provides as follows:

- The operator of the service (Egged) including members, salaried employees, drivers, conductors and all other workers employed in the service provided by Egged) must provide all soldiers with free transport on the interurban routes of Egged (as listed in Reshumot) at all times that the service is operated on any route.
- The operator of the service may not refuse to carry any soldier who wishes to travel by bus (in accordance with the provisions of this order) unless there is no room on the bus for an additional passenger.
- I detail hereunder arrangements that will apply to the free transport of members of the Israel Defence Forces on public transport routes:

 - These arrangements will apply to all soldiers in the Israel Defence Forces who are performing their period of national service or are regulars.
 - The soldiers referred to in Para. A. will be entitled to free transport on showing their officer's or soldier's certificate.
 - The laws and regulations applying to all ordinary public transport passengers will apply to soldiers travelling under the terms of this order.
 - The free transport arrangements will apply on all sections of the interurban routes of Egged, the route numbers of which contain three digits, but only on these routes. The arrangements will not apply on Egged routes located south of Mitzpeh Ramon and the Arava Junction (Yotvat Ha'Arava) of which the starting point and/or destination is south of Mitzpeh Ramon, nor on routes of the service operated in Sinai.
 - The arrangement under which soldiers in uniform had priority in bus queues is cancelled.
 - This order comes into effect on Tuesday, June 1, 1976.

Yaacov Malca
Controller of Road Transport

Police probe continues into B-G Airport bomb incident

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — Police are still trying to identify the blond European killed in the bomb blast here last Tuesday. At the end of the week experts in the Criminal Identification Department of the police managed to "reconstruct" his face, which had been badly burnt in the explosion.

The "reconstruction" was done with the aid of special chemicals, which gave the face a whitish, powdered effect. The "reconstructed" face was photographed and was sent to central offices in France of Interpol, together with his fingerprints and a couple of Identikit photos prepared by several people who had seen the man. The police hypothesized the witnesses, to help them better remember his face.

Airport security officials have requested their counterparts in Vienna to find out if the explosive detector at the airport was used when checking the baggage of the man killed in the blast.

Officials here believe that if the instrument was used the explosives should have been detected. It is believed that the explosives were of a very powerful type.

Explosive detectors are used by a number of airports, including the Austrian airport. Experts believe that by using this instrument one can detect explosives in a bag no matter how well hidden. There are several companies which produce

such instruments, including an Israeli firm.

After Wolfish adds:

Under the cover of secrecy of the Committee of Ministers for Security Affairs, the Cabinet was briefed yesterday by Transport Minister Gad Ya'acobi, Police Inspector-General Shaul Knecht, and representatives of the Shin Bet (domestic security service) about the airport blast. No details of the terrorist outrage as discussed in the Cabinet meeting were divulged, but the ministers were given a run-down of the security arrangements at the airport.

In the brief exchange between ministers, which was summed up by Premier Yitzhak Rabin, condolences were expressed once again on the death of the security officer Margalit Ben-Zahal, and hopes were expressed that the wounded would soon recover. Ministers commended all the authorities at the airport, for what they described as the efficient and vigilant manner in which the security procedures were carried out, and they praised the fact that Ben-Gurion Airport was restored to regular operation a short time after the bombing.

Arthur Kesselman adds:

Tel Aviv police yesterday picked up an American tourist who resembles a suspect in the airport bombing and held him "incommunicado" for three hours. He was John Curto, of Italian extraction, who has been in Israel with his wife since last Wednesday. They

are on their way home to the U.S. from Japan. Curto was picked up at the British Airways office.

Curto said he was forced to stand in the corridor of a police station for an hour and a half without even being given a glass of water. Only toward the end of his detention, added Curto, did the police explain to him that he was picked up because he resembled the 23-year-old Kuwaiti, Khaled al-Katami, who is suspected of complicity in last week's Ben-Gurion Airport bomb incident. When the police recognized their mistake, he said, they refused to take him back to the airline office.

Commenting on his ordeal, Curto stated: "That they picked me up I can understand. That's part of security. But why did they have to treat me like a dog?"

U.S.-Israel Business Council meeting here

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter

The Israel-U.S. Business Council will meet in Israel June 7-10 to discuss U.S. investments in Israel. The American delegation of industrialists and businessmen will be headed by former governor George Romney, and the Israeli delegation by Marc Mosevici.

The council will meet with Prime Minister Rabin, Finance Minister Yehoshua Rubinstein and Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev.

Citizens Rights may back Yadin, says Aloni

TEL AVIV. — The Citizens Rights Movement will talk to Prof. Yigael Yadin about possible political cooperation, Shulamit Aloni, MK, told the press here yesterday. The points to be clarified in discussions include his stand on a "Jewish democratic state," she said.

She commended Yadin on the announcement last week that he would seek a mandate from the public — "in contrast to other generals, who gave their orders to those below." She said he had put himself clearly on the political map, with no attempt to set up an "ideological supermarket."

But she disapproved of his refusal to run if he receives only three Knesset seats. Like the CRM, "Small parties have developed the image of little gourds — but we should remember it was the gourd that saved the Prophet Jonah from death (by providing shade), while not every general could save Nineveh."

None of the generals who have entered politics — and that includes Ezer Weizman, Ariel Sharon, Haim Bar-Lev and Yitzhak Rabin — have added anything

Civil aviation workers postpone sanctions

By ZEEV SCHUL
Jerusalem Post Aviation Reporter

BEN-GURION AIRPORT. — The civil aviation workers' staff committee yesterday announced that they will postpone planned sanctions following a request by Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel last weekend. The workers had planned to begin sanctions tomorrow, claiming that they were being discriminated against and demanding the same wages and benefits given to other employees of the aviation industry.

A spokesman told an Itim reporter that the committee had resolved to "give Meshel some more time to deal with our claims, especially since the trade unions have found our demands justified and worthy of support."

The spokesman added that the Histadrut had not made any promises, "but had at least shown understanding for the fact that the special flight allowance paid to the industry workers differed from the general type of 'specific' allow-

ances paid to some civil servant categories, which are now in the process of being cancelled."

Meanwhile, trouble is brewing at the terminal's new customs (air freight) building, where the workers are threatening a massive walkout and a return to the old facilities, next door to the terminal building. The workers complain that the new building is too noisy as it is located directly under the approach path of incoming aircraft. The noise created by planes flying at low altitudes is said to be insufferable, and some of the men claim that their hearing has been impaired. Some of the halls are also described as poorly ventilated, stuffy and windowless.

The director of the freight terminal, Gershon Peled, told an Itim reporter that acoustics engineers had been called in to suggest means of overcoming the noise problems. He requested the customs staff to show some "patience and forbearance" to enable him to cope with the problems.

GOLDA MEIR IN U.S. INTERVIEW:

Israel has no nuclear arms

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Former Prime Minister Golda Meir acknowledged yesterday for the first time that Israel has no nuclear arms.

Pressed in an interview to comment on the CIA report that Israel possesses nuclear weapons, Meir went beyond the regular formula that Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear arms in the area and said it has no such arms.

"Absolutely pure nonsense," she commented when asked on ABC's "Issues and Answers" whether Israel possessed such weaponry.

"We are not a nuclear country," she added. "We don't have nuclear weapons."

Asked again, she replied: "No, Sir, Israel does not have nuclear weapons."

Horev opposes second school of architecture

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Technion President Aluf (Res.) Amos Horev said yesterday that he strongly opposed the proposal to establish a second school of architecture in the country, in addition to the Technion's school. The proposal has been placed before the Council for Higher Education.

Horev said that in the country's present economic straits, there should be only one criterion for deciding the issue — can the Technion train as many architects as the country needs and at the required standard? He said no other consideration should influence the decision.

Horev said that in the country's present economic straits, there should be only one criterion for deciding the issue — can the Technion train as many architects as the country needs and at the required standard? He said no other consideration should influence the decision.

A HUNGER STRIKE for Soviet Prisoner of Zion Ya'acov Vinovor will be held at the Western Wall from June 1 to 3. Vinovor, 21, has been sentenced to three years in prison.

Export sales hit \$1,800m. last year

Outstanding Exporters cited

By AARON SEITNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Never before in the history of the State have exports been so vitally needed as today. President Ephraim Kacir said in Jerusalem yesterday during a ceremony at the President's Residence honouring 12 firms whose rising overseas sales have earned them the title "Outstanding Exporter."

"Our economy must be strengthened," the President asserted, "and only through greater export volume can we begin to cover the trade deficits that hang over us." He said Israel's new affiliation arrangement with the Common Market "poses a real new challenge for us," and lauded Israel's current research and development activities as one of the prime factors in boosting the country's export sales.

Those sales last year reached \$1,800m., Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Bar-Lev announced at the ceremony. This represents a doubling of overseas sales in the past four years.

Yesterday's top honour — The Government Export Prize — went to Agan Chemicals of Ashdod.

Established in 1950, Agan began selling overseas sixteen years later. With 300 employees, it specialises in making pesticides, and the main export items are weed killers sold in the U.S., South America, South Africa and Europe. In fact, more than 85 per cent of the company's output goes for export.

Agan received its first Outstanding Exporter award in 1970. Since then, its exports have increased 24 times over, and last year they reached \$24m.

A unique feature of Agan is the fact that its export products are the result of research-and-development programmes. By maintaining high quality and good service to its customers, Agan has made a notable name for itself among world pesticide manufacturers.

The other Outstanding Exporters are:

MIDDLE EAST TUBES LTD. OF HAIFA: This 800-worker company was founded in 1948. Its steel pipe, designed to carry fuel and water for industrial purposes and construction, presently go to Mexico, Venezuela, Iran, Gabon, the U.S., Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Turkey, Rumania, Cyprus and Greece.

Exports last year totalled \$18m., which represented a 350 per cent growth for the past two years.

LAHAVET ISCAR LTD. OF NAHARIYA: Though a comparatively new company (1968), Lahavet Iscar has already found itself markets for jet engine blades in France and the U.S. A 240 per cent increase in exports over the past 24 months has brought last year's overseas sales to \$3.5m. The firm, with 400 employees, began exporting in 1973.

ELBIT COMPUTERS LTD. OF HAIFA: Thanks to an active research-and-development programme, Elbit — established in 1968 — has become a prime competitor of the major computer hardware manufacturers in developed countries.

The products turned out by its 1,150 workers are now being sold in Sweden, Great Britain, France, the U.S., Italy and Belgium. Export sales last year stood at \$9m. This was a 1,125 per cent greater than two years ago.

ZOHAR DALIA SOAP AND DETERGENT COMPANY OF KIBBUTZ DALIA: Iran, African countries and Bulgaria are among the markets for Dalia cleaning materials and semi-finished items used in soap and detergent manufacture. Though its staff numbers only 60, Dalia brought its exports last year up to \$3,077,658. This was 362 per cent higher than in 1973.

ION BIOCHEMICAL LABORATORIES OF YERUHAM: Ion's line of cosmetics are now available in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, the U.S., Hong Kong, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Ethiopia. Exports have grown by 160 per cent in the past two years, and reached \$1,350,000 last year. Founded in 1965, the firm employs 180 workers.

NETAFIM COMPANY OF KIBBUTZ HATZORIM: Drip irrigation systems and hydrocyclic strainers are among the irrigation equipment manufactured by Netafim and sold to users in the U.S., France, Italy, Iran, South Africa, Greece and Yugoslavia.

Exports sales last year reached \$994,831, which means its foreign sales grew by 185 per cent in two years' time. Developed in Israel, Netafim's drip irrigation systems not only save water costs but also boost crop yields.

Netafim has also begun to export knowledge as well as ready-to-operate irrigation networks.

FAPOO LTD. OF TEL AVIV: This 90-worker fashion house, established in 1970, exports knit velvets to Japan, Canada, the U.S., Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, the Nether-

lands, Great Britain and France. Exports grew by 85 per cent over the past two years and last year totalled \$473,599. Its success is attributed to original designs and ability to coordinate its own planning to conform with customers' specifications.

CONEFURS INTERNATIONAL LTD. OF DALLAT AL-GARMBEL: Established only two-and-a-half years ago, Conefurs immediately began its exports of rabbit fur coats for men and women, to buyers in Germany, France, Japan and the U.S. Its 150 workers, with the assistance of foreign investors, have succeeded in raising export figures by 490 per cent in the past two years. Last year's overseas sales reached \$2,123,000.

HILLRON COMPANY LTD. OF ASHDOD: This 18-year-old company exports fresh and canned agricultural produce to Canada, Iran, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Britain and France.

The products it ships include avocado, melons, peppers, asparagus, squash, mango, pomegranates, pecan nuts, almonds, grapes and plums.

Exports last year reached \$3,327,000 which was 159 per cent more than in 1973. The company employs 110 workers.

NAHARIYA SOGLOWEK KOSHER SAUSAGE LTD. OF NAHARIYA: This veteran provisions manufacturer (established 1935) began exporting turkey meat and sausages to Western Europe in 1971, and by last year annual export sales reached \$2,650,000, up by 160 per cent from two years ago. It is the largest exporter of sausages in Israel and also the first one to penetrate European markets with turkey meat products. The company has a staff of 300.

REUVEN STEINMETZ LTD. OF NETANYA: A leading precious stone exporter, Reuven Steinmetz last year exported \$15,693,598 worth of diamonds to the U.S., Europe and the Far East. This was a 16 per cent growth compared with two years ago.

A veteran diamond exporter, the Steinmetz firm succeeded in increasing exports last year despite the drop in world demand for the stones.

Labour shortage delays delivery of Zim container

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The completion of the first of four 9,000-ton container ships being built in the Israeli Shipyards here for Zim has been delayed by several months as a result of an acute labour shortage.

The firm, vessel Sigal, launched last October, was to have been completed and delivered this month. But due to the labour shortage, yard general manager Yisrael Libertowski told The Post yesterday, the ship won't be ready before October.

The second of the four ships is to be launched in September, he said. The yard, which has 800 employees, needs another 200 skilled metal-workers by the end of this year, and another 200-250 next year; but there appears little chance of getting them, Libertowski said.

"We offer good wages, but it's hard work and there are few takers for it," he noted.

Plans to bring in several dozen skilled shipyard workers from England were not carried out "for reasons beyond the management's control," though permits from the Government and agreement of the Labour Council had been received.

IL58b. in bonds to be redeemed in four years

Jerusalem Post Reporter

In the three months beginning November 1978, the Government will have to pay IL5.3 billion for index-linked bonds which mature in that period, according to a Bank of Israel study.

These large payments will cause inflation similar to that in South American countries, the authors of the study warn.

The study points out that the Government will redeem IL5.6b. in bonds this year; IL12.7b. in 1977; IL20.6b. in 1978 and IL15.6b. in 1979. About IL58b. will be paid during this period, of which IL40b. are for linkage payments, according to the survey.

Although no policy is advocated in the survey the Bank of Israel is known to favour a return to full (100 per cent) linkage to the index. In the opinion of the bank officials, this will enable the Government to sell new bonds and the revenue will be used to pay for the redeemed bonds. The Cabinet, however, has decided to reduce linkage on bonds to 70 per cent by the end of 1977.

A SOCCER GAME between Abu Ghosh and Musrara will be held at 5.30 this afternoon at Beit Meir, Hahabim Theatre in Tel Aviv on June 27. The ceremony was postponed from May 21, for reasons unexplained by the prize committee.

THE ITZIK MANGEE Prize for literature will be awarded at the Hahabim Theatre in Tel Aviv on June 27. The ceremony was postponed from May 21, for reasons unexplained by the prize committee.

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Workers begin second week locked in plant

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

ASHDOD. — The Ashdod Automotive Industry workers lock-in into its second week tonight, with neither side budging from its stand.

The 250 locked-in workers are asking that all of them be fired and not they receive increased severance pay.

Originally, management fired 100 workers because of lack of work at the plant. The workers committee demanded that the fired workers receive increased severance pay, but management refused. The workers then locked themselves in the plant last Monday night.

Yesterday representatives of 17 major works committees in Ashdod, together with representatives of our works committees from the Dan Region, visited the locked-in workers. They voiced support of the workers and called on the Histadrut to back them in the same way that he industrialists are backing the management.

The Histadrut's reply came in a statement released at the end of a meeting of the Histadrut Central Committee, Both Trade Union De-

partment Chairman Uriel Abrahamowicz and Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel called on the workers to return to normal work, after which they would agree to negotiate for the 100 fired workers. Concerning the demand that all of the workers be fired, the Histadrut said this was against principle and could not be supported.

Eliyahu Cohen head of all the works committees in Ashdod, in response to the Histadrut statement, said it could have serious consequences. "We have tried to meet Abrahamowicz and Meshel and have received a cold shoulder. If, without seeing us, they have come out with such a statement, then we are going to demand that they resign immediately, because they are not representing the true interests of the workers."

When questioned what future steps might be taken, Cohen said that they might include calling warning strikes at all the plants in Ashdod, and organizing protest marches of all the workers in Ashdod, at Histadrut headquarters in Tel Aviv and before the Knesset in Jerusalem.

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Mexican kidnappers release girl unharmed

MEXICO CITY. — Nadine Chaval, kidnapped daughter of the Belgian ambassador, was released Saturday night by her captors.

Miss Chaval, who was kidnapped five days earlier, arrived at the embassy residence almost exactly 24 hours after her parents paid a ransom of \$400,000 to members of the "23rd of September Communist League" who pulled her from a chauffeur-driven car as she was on her way to school.

She was dropped off at the home of the Turkish ambassador who brought her to her parents.

Her release came shortly after Embassy First Secretary Nestor Andres Sortane appealed to the kidnappers to fulfill their part of the deal and release her.

She said in a courtyard exchange

with newsmen as she perched on the trunk of the car from which she had been seized, "I'm worried about my father and my mother and I'm too tired to talk."

"If you'd be so kind as to come back tomorrow I'd be glad to tell you everything that happened to me," she said.

The ambassador suffered a nervous breakdown and mild heart attack Friday and Sortane said Mrs. Chaval had reached her limit of endurance.

But Mrs. Chaval later posed for pictures, smiling and holding hands with her daughter.

"I'm very happy that she's home," Mrs. Chaval said. "We're profoundly happy that this terrible nightmare has come to an end."

The ransom had been paid shortly before midnight Friday and the Chaval family had expected Nadine to be released by noon Saturday. When they failed to hear from either her or her captors, Mrs. Chaval made a public appeal to the abductors to release Nadine.

The "23rd of September Communist League," a terrorist organization which has staged several kidnappings and shootings, had originally threatened to kill Miss Chaval unless it received \$800,000 by Thursday. But a compromise was worked out Friday.

Eye-witnesses said four men and a woman dragged Nadine from the car at gunpoint as she was being driven to school. The League admitted in a communiqué that its intended victim was the ambassador but said Miss Chaval was also a member of the "exploiting" class, so the intended ransom would be applied to her.



Nadine Chaval after her release. (UPI telephoto)



Presidential aspirant Ronald Reagan said Saturday that he felt at home as he mounted his horse for a parade before attending an old-time rodeo and country barbecue in Paso Robles, California. The former governor of that state is entered in its primary on June 6. (UPI Telephoto)

Britain withdraws ships in move to end Cod War

REYKJAVIK. — In a major move to end the North Atlantic cod war, Iceland and Britain yesterday agreed to reopen negotiations today following the withdrawal of British warships from Iceland's disputed fishing grounds.

The Royal Navy frigates pulled out of Iceland's unilaterally declared 200-mile fishing zone at 9 last night. Talks aimed at producing an interim settlement of the seven-month-old dispute between the two NATO allies will be held in the Norwegian capital of Oslo.

Iceland had refused to negotiate until Britain pulled out the six frigates sent to protect British trawlers defying Iceland's unilateral declaration of an exclusive fishing zone stretching 200 miles around its shores.

In London, British authorities said they were bowing to the Icelandic demand. "In the belief that negotiations could now be held in a good prospect of agreement."

Fourty-two British trawlers now operating off east Iceland were ordered to haul in their nets and stop fishing to help create a good atmosphere for the Oslo conference, according to London officials.

Britain will be represented at Oslo by Foreign Secretary Anthony

Crosland and Iceland by Foreign Minister Einar Agustsson and Fisheries Minister Matthias Bjarnason. Bjarnason said in an interview that "it is impossible for me to say if any agreement can be reached."

But he added that in recent exchanges between London and Reykjavik through third parties "the lines have become clearer."

Political sources said the talks would focus on a British proposal for a six-month period during which up to 24 British trawlers would be allowed to operate at the same time within the 200-mile limit.

There was speculation that such an interim agreement could run from June 1 to December 1 — by which time both sides hope that the UN Law of the Sea Conference would have agreed on 200-mile exclusive economic zones for coastal states.

The third cod war flared when Iceland extended its fishing limits from 50 to 200 miles last October to conserve fish stocks. British trawlers and protecting frigates clashed more than 40 times with Icelandic patrol boats trying to enforce the fishing restrictions. Finally, in February, Iceland broke off diplomatic relations with Britain.

(Reuter, AP)

MAO STILL DYING

FOR YEARS NOW there have been rumours that Mao Tse-tung was about to die from some unspecified malady, and these reports have again begun circulating. This time, however, the denials from official sources in Peking came quickly, and their swiftness is perhaps the best measure of the seriousness of the current power struggle on the Chinese mainland. The state of Mao's health is undoubtedly a main reason for the events which have shaken the top Chinese leadership ever since Premier Chou En-lai died in January.

One day, the rumours will be truth, for there is no doubt at all of the Chinese Communist Party Chairman's growing frailty. There was even confirmation earlier this month from official sources in Peking that Mao had suffered a stroke in the unspecified past.

The latest report that Mao is dying came from London — but that is no surprise, for in the past such stories have come up nearly everywhere, only to be confounded by a new appearance by the Chinese leader.

News reports in the past month pointed out that photographs published recently by the Peking "People's Daily" show Mao to be in a progressively feeble condition. He has had two meetings recently with visiting statesmen: Robert Muldoon, New Zealand Prime Minister, and Lee Kwan-yew, Singapore Prime Minister. The latest picture of Mao's meeting with Lee appeared on May 12, showing the Chairman slumped with his head resting on the top of his chair.

THERE WAS a difference this time in Mao's talks with Muldoon and Lee. Both meetings, the one with Muldoon on April 30 and the other with Lee on May 11, were for only 15 minutes, in sharp contrast to the conversations Mao had with President Ford last December and with ex-President Nixon in February, both of which lasted one hour and 40 minutes.

Muldoon afterwards said in Hong-kong, "There is no doubt he is not healthy," and added that Mao was not senile. But other sources close to Muldoon said the New Zealand Premier told his associates that he found Mao "largely incomprehensible," that his voice was weak, and the interpreter had to ask the Chairman to repeat himself several



CHIANG CHING

times to make sure of his meaning. The analysts are taking no bets on Mao's survival chances although it is becoming more and more evident that the Peking leadership is worried over his health.

THE MOST SERIOUS problem after Chou's death was that of succession. During 25 years, Chou never displayed any desire to seize power but was content to remain in Mao's shadow and serve as a buffer or conciliator in chaotic times. His death plunged Mao into a much more difficult situation and must lead the Peking regime to changes.

Chou is no longer there to serve as the convenient cushion in the present day inner party conflict. His death has caused deep discontent among the elements who were rooted out by Mao's cultural revolution, and has effectively ruled out any peaceful transfer of power to the so-called radical group headed by Mao's wife, Chiang Ching.

It is no wonder then that the radicals only last week launched a campaign to warn that the followers of Teng Hsiao-ping may have been defeated when he was

dismissed from the vice-premiership but that they continue to plot to regain power. Their assertion appeared in an unusual joint editorial in the Peking "People's Daily," which is the organ of the party, the theoretical journal "Red Flag," and, surprisingly enough, the "Liberation Army Daily." The occasion was the 10th anniversary of the start of the 1966-69 cultural revolution.

THE CULTURAL revolution was Mao's effort to destroy the power-holding bureaucratic establishment which had grown up within the Chinese Communist structure. It was obvious during the upheaval of that revolution that Mao's desire of attaining his form of Marxism could never be attained. And Mao himself was forced to bring in the army to restore law and order when the Red Guards got out of control. To this day it is something of a mystery why the army didn't retain the power that came into their hands at that period. Perhaps, it was to do with the Lin Biao bid for power and his Soviet connections.

Even the radicals at the time knew that the bureaucracy was needed to run things on a day to day basis, so many were called back from disgrace. And it is admitted, as seen from the recent joint editorial, that these elements which are frequently termed "moderates" in the West (although they actually are no less radical Communists than the Chiang Ching faction) represent a danger to Mme. Mao's strive for power.

Chiang Ching herself has elevated to top jobs many of her henchmen and their followers. But it is known that she is a concealed person detested by the older Communist Party elements, and not exactly admired even by those who have never been disgraced. Teng's fall is at least only a limited victory for Chiang Ching, and her failure to get one of her own men into the Prime Minister's chair shows which way the wind is blowing. This despite the fact that the faction is aggressive and disciplined and controls the mass media.

But the April 5 mob outbreak in Peking's Tien An Men Square can be a pointer to the kind of violence which could erupt in the coming battle for the chairmanship.

Rockefeller warns Italians about elections

WASHINGTON. — Vice President Nelson Rockefeller said in an interview released yesterday that if Communists enter the Italian government after the forthcoming parliamentary elections then Nato will have to make a "reappraisal."

In an interview with Marino de Medici, Washington correspondent of the Rome newspaper "Il Tempo," Rockefeller said he did not want to tell any other state or people what to do.

But questioned about the Italian elections on June 20 and the possibility that Communists will gain strength and enter the Rome government — a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization — for the first time since 1947, he said: "If there's a change, then, obviously... there has to be a reappraisal as to what should be done... I would result in our having to re-examine the relationship. Let's face it, the reason for Nato was a

common defence of the West against Communism.

"Personally, I would doubt that happening, but that's just an observation from one who is not in a position to have an opinion... Asked if it would not be in the interests of the United States to see an Italy well-run with Communist participation, Rockefeller said that the fate of Hungary and Czechoslovakia should be kept in mind.

Philippines, USSR may establish ties

MOSCOW. — President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines flew into the Siberian city of Novosibirsk yesterday on the first leg of a visit to the Soviet Union which is expected to culminate in the establishment of relations between the two countries.

Marcos, who is due in Moscow today, is the first president of the island nation to visit the Soviet Union. The Philippines is the last major Southeast Asian country which does not have formal ties with Moscow.

BASEBALL

U.S. baseball results and stand- ings after Saturday's games:				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
EAST				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	24	13	.615	—
Baltimore	22	18	.550	2½
Cleveland	19	20	.487	5
Boston	18	21	.462	6
Milwaukee	15	19	.441	6½
Detroit	16	22	.421	7½
WEST				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Kansas City	24	16	.590	—
Texas	24	16	.590	—
Minnesota	20	20	.500	4
Chicago	19	19	.500	4
Oakland	20	24	.456	6
California	18	29	.383	9½
Saturday's games: Detroit 4, New York 1; Minnesota 5, Texas 1; Philadelphia 6, Montreal 1; St. Louis 3, New York 2, 10 innings; San Diego 4, San Francisco 0; Baltimore 4, Milwaukee 0.				

more 7, Boston 2; California 3-7, Kansas City 2-2.

French prestige slips after Lebanon offer

By ROBIN SMITH

PARIS. — President Giscard d'Estaing's proposal to send French troops to play a peace-keeping role in Lebanon has developed into an outside foreign policy fiasco that could hamper French diplomacy for a long time to come.

The French President's offer has now been rejected by almost every one concerned except the Christian forces in the Lebanon civil war, and the tone of much of the Arab reaction has been venomous. The French opposition is lashing the government, and those who sympathize with Giscard's aims are wondering how something intended to be a sober, tentative, humanitarian gesture could have been so badly mishandled.

Obviously Giscard's project has been badly distorted. The Elysee Palace spokesman points out that all the President ever had in mind was "a possible operation to consolidate a situation of peace for a limited period." But any proposition that unites against Israel and the Palestinians, and aligns Arab powers friendly to France — such as Egypt and Kuwait — with an antagonist like Algeria, has plainly been very badly conceived.

There are areas of uncomfortable silence in government circles. Supporters of Giscard wonder if he fully weighed the dangers to which 3,000 French soldiers would be exposed in the streets of Beirut if one of the two warring Lebanese armies decided to fire on the foreign troops holding them apart.

The trouble began when Giscard, on the last lap of his visit to the U.S., called a few French pressmen to his New Orleans hotel and told them that France was ready at 48 hours notice to send two or three regiments to police a cease-fire in Lebanon. The essential condition was

that the Lebanese authorities would have to invite the French in as the only way of stopping the slaughter.

Both the timing of Giscard's venture and the apparent lack of preparation were mystifying. Why did the President deliberately draw attention to his proposal just after his talks with President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger, when the whole Arab world would say that France was acting as an American pawn? Why had preliminary soundings not given warning of how hostile the reaction would be? Were the French led astray by confidential messages of encouragement from the Syrians and the new Lebanese President, which were not endorsed when the plan was made public?

One suggestion is that Giscard was beguiled by the informal atmosphere of American policymaking. He was constantly on view in

the U.S. and was repeatedly stating his views with considerable success. The atmosphere of freewheeling candour may have proved infectious and led him to make one statement too many.

Giscard had one domestic motive for making his disclosure when he did. The French National Assembly had been hotly debating his plans to pour money into France's conventional forces. Apart from their main defensive role, the armed forces are intended by Giscard for just such prestige missions as the Lebanese assignment.

Where Giscard did succeed — though it must be of small comfort to him now — was in driving a wedge among his more troublesome Gaullist followers. Michel Debré, de Gaulle's former prime minister, had called for just such a Gaullist gesture in Lebanon, and applauded the statement from New Orleans. Other Gaullists, like Alexandre Sanguinetti, the former secretary-general of the Gaullist UDR Party, accused Giscard of hatching plans that went far beyond the logistical ability of the French forces.

What is serious for France and Europe about the whole incident is its revelation of how close to the surface in the Arab world is suspicion of European motives. The Europeans — particularly France — are apt to take for granted that it is only the two super-powers whose evil intentions are feared in the Third World. Now France finds that memories of its protectorate in Lebanon after World War I are not the pleasant distant prospect that it likes to imagine.

Memories of European imperialism are still alive in the Middle East, and impetuous gestures are best avoided. The immediate problem for France is to restore the trust of the Arab powers which the Lebanese offer has shaken.

Jerusalem Post Correspondent Jack Maurice adds:

Israeli Ambassador to France Mordechai Gazit conferred for 45 minutes with Sauvagnargues during the weekend in Paris. The meeting, held at Gazit's request, is believed to have centred on the Lebanese situation, with Gazit drawing the minister's attention to the possible consequences of French intervention in that country.

France announced last year that it would halt land and air arms sales to South Africa. Critics said this would not affect arms contracts already concluded. France has long been South Africa's main arms supplier.

Opponents of France's policies claim that controls on military sales have repeatedly been violated. The main example cited was a deal with Libya which theoretically prohibited Mirage jets being put at the disposal of a third country. French officials were embarrassed when Libya confirmed Israeli charges that the jets had been put at Egypt's disposal during the 1973 Middle East War.

Jerusalem Post Correspondent Jack Maurice adds:

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Sauvagnargues says French policy 'misunderstood'

PARIS. — French Foreign Minister Jean Sauvagnargues said in an interview published here yesterday in the weekly news magazine "Le Point" that France's recent offer to send peacekeeping forces to Lebanon had been badly understood.

"We are perhaps the only country involved whose sole worry is (the fate of) Lebanon," he said.

On the Middle East in general, he said: "Partly thanks to France, everyone today admits that a Middle East settlement must contain both a solution for the Palestinian problem and the recognition of Israel's right to exist."

Sauvagnargues also sought to allay fears that France was helping to spread nuclear weapons by selling foreign countries nuclear technology.

This came as South Africa announced that its first nuclear power station would be built by a French consortium.

Sauvagnargues said France imposed strict controls on its sales of nuclear know-how. The technology was meant for peaceful purposes.



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THE JERUSALEM POST

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m. napayis

A THICK SWARM of aircraft is descending on Vancouver, bearing delegates to the latest, greatest United Nations conference, code-named: Habitat. The conference, which opens today and will run for two weeks, is a gathering to discuss strategies to cope with what is happening to the world's cities.

In rich nations or poor, what is happening to the cities is more than just alarming. In the poorer world, the cities are experiencing the largest movement of humanity on record. A flood of migrants is swelling the shanty towns that encircle the Third World cities — the favelas of Brazil, the rancho of Venezuela, the *barriada* of Peru and the shanty of Lagos.

The Habitat conference will be told that the developing nations, to shelter their new urban populations, will need to build a mind-boggling number of new houses and workplaces. This amazing quantity must be enough to equal the entire construction of buildings in Europe, Japan and North America in the last two centuries. And the developing nations will have to do all this in the next 20 years.

If they fail, the human prospect is that a vast section of the world's people will be condemned to live in societies so far decayed that they will simply be irredeemable, many experts believe, except by "population crash." People get hurt in population crashes.

In the wealthier nations, the life of the cities are of a different nature but still highly disturbing. The threat in many nations is of megalopolis. The trouble with a megalopolis is

Seeking ways to cope with the rush to the cities

By JEREMY BUGLER
VANCOUVER

that it is profligate with resources and energy, it exhausts its people in making them travel huge distances from work to home and back. It has decaying centres where crime breeds, and it gobbles up land needed for food production and recreation.

WHAT ON EARTH can be done about problems on this scale? The United Nations staff organising the conference seem commendably undaunted. They insist the conference will deal with specific, workable approaches to problems. Above all, it will prod governments into planning now for the city tomorrow.

A number of high-powered experts, from Barbara Ward to Margaret Mead, are expected to be in Vancouver to provide the intellectual distinction that all good conferences need. Inescapably, though, Habitat will also be the scene of some bickering by differing groups and ideologies. A struggle, for exam-

ple, may take place between two groups being identified as "urbanists" and "ruralists."

The urbanists argue that little or nothing can or should be done to stop the drift to the cities. They say that indeed the new migrants tend to be among the most enterprising people of a society. They contend that what governments around the world have to do is pour resources into those cities to make them habitable.

The ruralists, on the other hand, say that the real problem lies in the countryside. They cite Tanzania and China as places where it has been shown that the drift to the city slum is not inevitable.

Another tangle is expected between those who believe the housing problem in the cities and towns can be solved by big government programmes, and those who believe that it can only be tackled by harnessing the self-help qualities of the squatters. The tide seems to be turning towards self-help.

At the end of its discussions, Habitat will be judged on two levels. It will be judged to see whether simple but dramatic improvements that are quite attainable have been got across. On the second level, Habitat will be judged on whether it has been able to break the bonds of prejudice. It will have before it resolutions which stress that many housing and urban problems can only be solved by the public ownership of land, or by public control of development. In parts of the world like Latin America, such talk has always been tainted with Communism. Perhaps Habitat will make such proposals respectable. (Oha)

Looking at the new bags

By JOANNA YEHIEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

WE MAY GO barefoot, without make-up, bathe in the nude down in Nueba, or rarely depart from our T-shirt and jeans, but the one item of fashion we're virtually never without is our handbag. So much is it a part of ourselves, that we often ignore it until it falls apart — or a friend buys a new one and we take a look at our own old misshapen object and decide it's time to do the same.

If you're in that kind of a mood, Mini exclusive boutique in Tel Aviv's Hod Passage off Rehov Dizengoff last week showed its spring and summer fashion bags to the press, and among these Italian imported or locally made bags, there may be one for you.

Mini is selling three very different kinds of handbags this summer — some sporty canvas bound with leather "military" bags; some imported Italian-made jacquard bags decorated with leather; and a line of Italian-made straw bags bound with leather or silk in various shapes and colours, to go with fashion's "natural" look.

The canvas and leather "army" bags come in three different shapes, ranging from the large tote bag, for shopping or beach, a pouchy shoulder or hand-held bag, zip



Bagha's line of woven straw handbags.

(Ben-Ami)

fastened, or a true army-style pocket-book bag, with various compartments inside, to be worn over the shoulder. All these bags are washable, and cost from IL250 to IL350.

The "jacquard" bags, designed by Bagha, and made by Zenith of Italy, also come in a great variety of shapes and sizes. Attention is placed primarily on the leather designs on the outside in various shades of brown, and the gold-coloured fastenings. These bags are "sporty-elegant," of a go-anywhere, do-anything type, and most are roomy enough to satisfy even the most carry-her-whole-wardrobe-along-

with-her type.

Most appealing personally (and cheapest, too), are the bags of woven straw, in which the leather binding comes in various colours to surround the natural colour of the straw itself. These bags are in all kinds of shapes from totes to envelope clutches. They cost from IL150 for the clutch bags bound in silk to IL300 for the same bound in leather. All made by Bagha of Florence.

Mini are also showing a range of elegant evening bags in crocodile, some leather uni-sex bags for him or her (from IL500 to IL600) and a range of accessories such as wallets and key-holders.

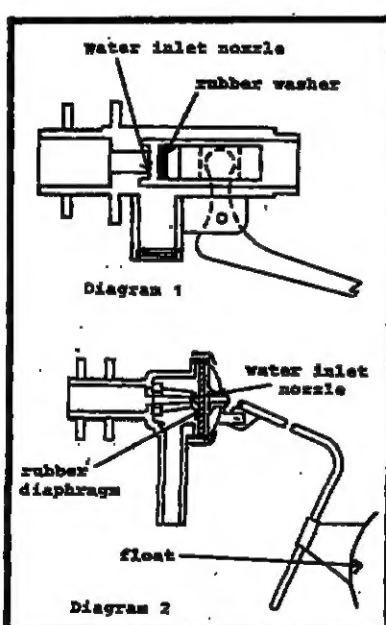
DO IT YOURSELF / MEIR FACTOR

IN OUR FLAT we were originally provided with a low level plastic toilet cistern having the ballcock system shown in diagram 1. To flush the toilet, you had to press down on a small bar set in the front part of the lid. Due to the gradual accumulation of a lime deposit on the bar it would usually stick after depressing it and the toilet would continue flushing. Eventually, exasperated by this waste of water and fed-up with replacing the brass nozzle which was very prone to corrosion, I decided to replace the complete cistern.

I bought a plastic cistern made by Ma'agen Michael, operated by a sensible handle, and having a far superior ballcock (diagram 2), consisting of a large rubber diaphragm which is pressed up against the water inlet nozzle by the action of the float lever. In some eighteen months of use I have had no trouble with the ballcock mechanism which, being made completely of plastic (except for the rubber diaphragm) is corrosion free.

I first shut off the water inlet tap to the old cistern and removed the cistern to empty it. With an adjustable wrench I disconnected the brass nut connecting the inlet water supply to the cistern. Next, by hand I opened the large plastic collar securing the down-pipe from the cistern to the W.C. pan. All that remained to do was to unhook the cistern from the plastic strip holding it to the wall and unscrew the strip from the wall. I removed the plastic down-pipe by cutting through the rubber sealing ring with a sharp knife.

The new cistern had a hole on each



Replacing a cistern

side so that the ballcock can be fitted on either side, the other hole being blocked off with a plastic plug. When you change over the side of the ballcock you also have to turn the plastic float around. Having ensured that the ballcock was on the required side, I connected the wide down-pipe to the underside of the cistern and

stuck the lower bent end into the porcelain socket of the W.C. pan.

I found I had to cut off a few centimetres from the lower end of the pipe as it projected too far into the W.C. pan. I used a hacksaw to cut the pipe, smoothing over the ragged edges with a piece of steel wool. I could now mark the position of the holes for the supporting screws. I then removed the cistern, drilled the two holes using a 6mm masonry bit, plugged the holes with 1" long green plastic wall plugs, and fastened the cistern with the hexagonal headed screws supplied. These screws also have a slot for a screwdriver, but I found it much easier to use a small ratchet socket spanner to tighten them.

I then liberally applied liquid soap to the inside of the large rubber ring, slid it over the lower end of the plastic down-pipe, and turned the wide ring inside out over on itself. This enabled me to insert the end of the pipe covered by the small part of the ring, and then spring the larger part of the ring over the porcelain flange. I was then able to tighten up the pipe to the cistern by screwing the large plastic nut up by hand. As an added precaution to prevent leaking from the rubber joint, I wound a few turns of wire around the rubber and tightened up with a pair of pliers.

I then reconnected the water input to the cistern, opened the stop tap and allowed the cistern to fill. The water level in the cistern I was able to adjust by turning a plastic knurled wheel which regulates the height the float can rise.

'O Jerusalem' luxury tour for the rich

By GEORGE LEONOF

IT'S BEING widely promoted in the U.S. as "the most unusual tour of the city in 40 centuries," and the city's Mayor Teddy Kollek is advising American travel agents, in a printed circular, that "I fully agree with that description."

Billed as the "O Jerusalem!" tour, the project has been in the works for almost two years, sired by Eli Al and nurtured at various intensities over the past two years by the Ministry for Tourism and the Jerusalem Municipality. It is finally coming off the production line at the rate of about eight departures a week from New York — in ten-day or two-week packages.

What makes it so unusual, in the

eyes of the promoters, is the comprehensive one-week sojourn in Jerusalem during which the emphasis will be much on its people as on its traditional historic attractions. It was not tailored specifically with a view to the American Jewish market, but that is where it seems fated to do best, although it will include special features for the year-end Christian holidays.

Studying the itinerary are visits to the homes of new immigrants and veteran settlers, including the more exotic Oriental communities originating from Bukhara, Kurdistan and Yemen; guided tours to excavations still not completely open to the public, receptions by Beduin

sheikhs, and visits to Gush Etzion and Kiryat Arba, the Jewish settlement in Hebron.

A broad gamut of cultural activity includes a full Hebrew lesson in one of Jerusalem's *upstims* and a *piece de resistance* in the form of a dinner hosted by Mayor Kollek.

Lasting into mid-March, "O Jerusalem!" is one of the most ambitious luxury packages ever marketed by Israel. Accommodation is nothing less than five-star (the Hilton and Plaza hotels in both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv). Current price of the 10-day package on a bed-breakfast basis is \$1,039 (two weeks — \$1,125), but this changes to the peak season price of \$1,195 (\$1,275) the first week in June.

AN ACT OF DEVOTION

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Uri Segal conducting, Vladimir Ashkenazy, piano (Binyamin Ha'omah, Jerusalem No. 27). Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 17, in G Major, K. 453; Mahler: Symphony No. 6, in A minor.

MOZART'S Concerto are most of them so intimate in texture and character that they are apt to lose some of their impact on the listener in huge, modern halls. With Vladimir Ashkenazy's delicate approach and self-effacing stage manner, the danger becomes real. But such is his musicianship that one was able to enjoy the dream-like quality of his phrases, the perfect balance in the dialogues with the orchestra (which Uri Segal kept

judiciously down to level), his sense for the right tempi and the impeccable fluency of his technical resources. It was not a virtuoso performance — the Concerto in G does not permit showiness anyway — but it was a musician's act of devotion to music and all its beauty.

Uri Segal gave a most convincing reading of Mahler's Sixth Symphony, showing himself a spirited leader from beginning to end. The performance was

remarkably fresh and lively, despite the fact that Segal's version is eight minutes longer than, for example, Kubelik's recording on DGG. The biggest difference in time was in the Andante, which Segal drew out more than the rather thin musical could bear. As so often with Mahler, the last twenty minutes seemed never-ending, and not even the conductor's untiring efforts could make it appear any shorter. But it was an impressively strong performance, and Uri Segal gave a convincing demonstration of his gifts as a conductor, overriding any previously held reservations.

YOHANAN BOEHM

Haifa leads in race to first artificial liver

By Joan Borsten / Special to The Jerusalem Post



Steve Gaffin consults with colleagues at the Abba Khoushy Medical School (Passow)

between life and death for many patients.

"Perhaps Israelis are already familiar with the artificial kidney (haemo dialysis). Several times a week blood is taken from the artery through a tube and passed through a

series of membranes. It is then equilibrated, low molecular waste products are removed, and the purified blood pumped back into the patient. The 'artificial liver' will be similar to this artificial kidney in many ways, but it will be much

cheaper, simpler, and easier. It also will not involve transplant."

GAFFIN BEGAN working on this project while still at the Weizmann Institute. There he was approached by Dr. Jacob Fine, former chairman of Harvard Medical School's Department of Surgery, and a member of the Weizmann Board of Governors. Fine was looking for someone with a chemical background to improve a new test for bacterial poisons which cause shock. Gaffin did the research and then came up with a way, using this same test, to remove poisons from the blood. This led to the idea of modifying the principle for any poison.

"Much of my money for chemicals and equipment came from friends," Gaffin says, "and through Dr. Fine, who sent me free samples worth thousands of dollars. Once the process has been tested, it will be used experimentally and then on patients in Boston-area hospitals."

Gaffin's first working artificial liver will remove *endotoxin* from the blood stream. This is the poison which endangers the lives of wounded soldiers and accident victims. Once this instrument is perfected, Gaffin predicts that all succeeding variations (for different types of poisons) will be easy to develop.

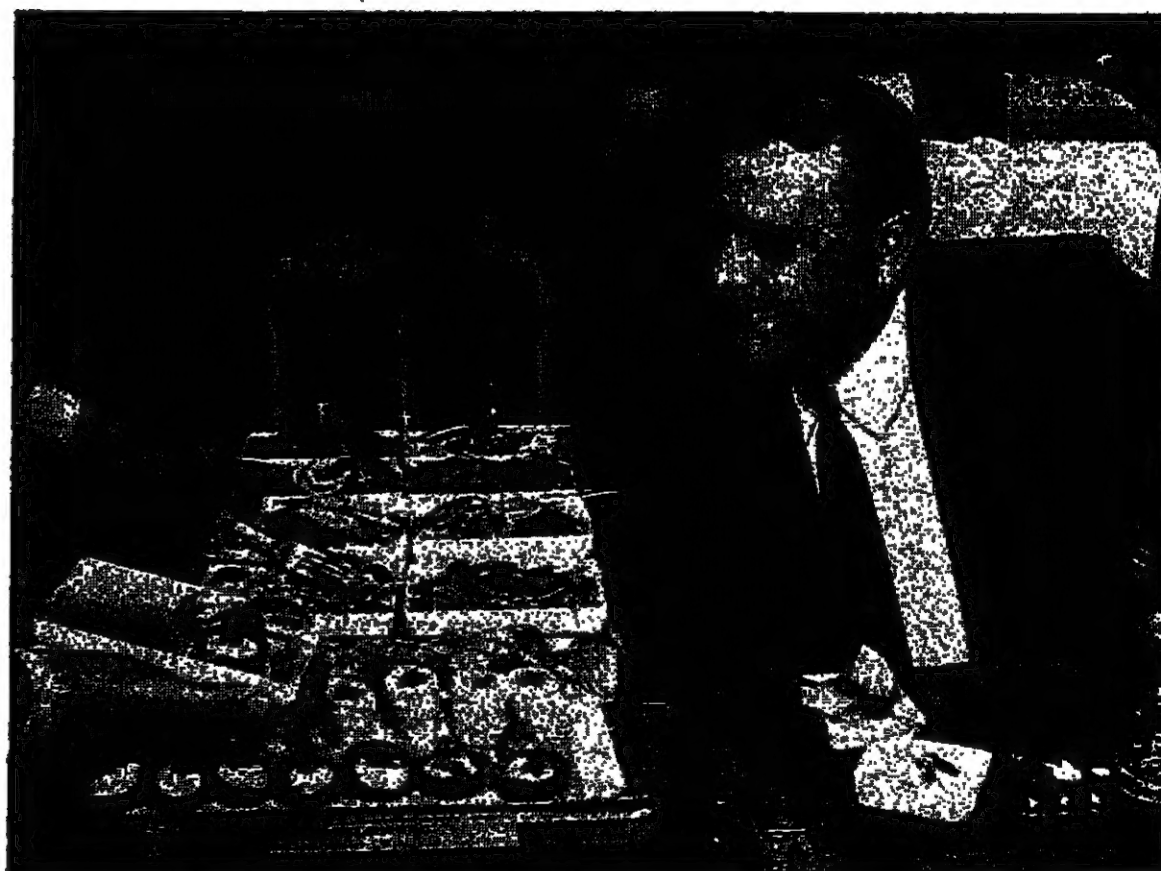
Married to an Israeli and the father of a two-year-old son, Gaffin is known for his humorous anecdotes, easy-going ways, and inability to learn Hebrew. He spends much of his leisure time combing Israeli archaeological ruins for ancient coins ("I had to give up sailing when I immigrated, but the dig here make up for it"), plays the guitar, skin dives, and has a Brownie in judo.

"I like being an Israeli bio-physicist," says Gaffin, "although it has its drawbacks. When I first immigrated, for instance, I brought with me a new invention, a laboratory device for purifying proteins. I wanted Israel to produce and market my find, bringing in much-needed foreign currency. Unfortunately, the quality of our workmanship is not on par with America's, and my product's commercial appeal was adversely affected."

"There are, of course, phases. In the U.S., most of those in my profession are involved in pure research. Here, the emphasis is more on inventing new processes, like the 'artificial liver,' for medicine and science. It's important to me that my ideas are tuned into something practical and useful."

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HOW TO BUY 25M. OUNCES OF GOLD

J. Voet / Special to The Jerusalem Post

GOLD IS IN the news again. On June 2 some 780,000 ounces of fine gold are to be offered for sale by the International Monetary Fund.

At long last the Fund has officially announced how it intends to start the disposal of 25 million ounces of gold. The proceeds of the sales, which are being spread over a four-year period, are to be used for a new trust fund for developing nations.

The first sale is to use the so-called common price technique. Anybody with credentials to make his bid trustworthy can enter the race, bidding for at least two thousand ounces. For this substantial amount, a refundable deposit of \$50,000, is needed. This makes the unendingly a rich man's race.

After all the bids are entered and examined, the IMF sets the lowest acceptable bid level and charges that price to all those who bid above it. This technique is fundamentally different from that used by U.S. Treasury auctions in the past. In their bid price technique, the bidder simply pays the price he had submitted, provided it is above the minimum level set by the seller. The bid price technique is clearly more advantageous for the seller as various quantities of the precious metal are sold at different prices, no price being less than the predetermined minimum. As a rule the average price is substantially above that level.

The IMF has indicated the common price technique to set an acceptable level for the price of gold. Later it may revert to the more advantageous bid price technique.

In addition the IMF managing director, Johannes Witteveen, has indicated that the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements will be

a bidder. Obviously the BIS has no intention of storing the gold in its own coffers, but is buying for resale to the central banks of rich countries. The curious rules of the IMF forbid these central banks to enter their bids directly.

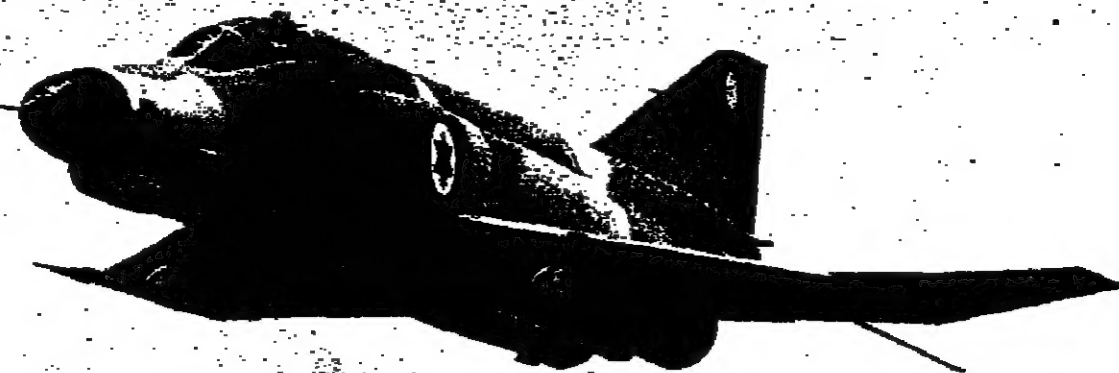
The gold market is watching the results of the sale with understandable curiosity. As it was known for some time that substantial official gold sales were in the offing, the price of gold has dropped steadily during the past year. At present it fluctuates around \$128 an ounce. This is a far cry from the all time high, nearly \$200, reached only a short time ago.

Still, it is about three times the so-called official price for monetary gold a few years earlier. It is generally expected that the floor price of the IMF will be around \$120, slightly below the present market price, despite the substantial gold sales which are planned for the next four years.

It has been widely predicted that the demonitizing of gold will force its price to normal levels, determined only by supply and demand. Gold will fluctuate with the tide as any other metal, it has been said.

Curiously enough, gold lost about one third of its value last year (measured in the not so stable U.S. dollars), whereas most other metals gained sharply in price during the same period.

Copper and lead nearly doubled in price, whereas tin and zinc both added over one third of their value in less than six months. Compared with other metals gold has so far not proved to be a good buy. The future of gold remains anybody's guess. It is, however, unlikely, given the huge overhang of the IMF gold auctions, that the gold price will soon reach the dizzy heights of a few years ago.



'AVIATION WEEK' REPORTS

IDF seeks to rearm Phantoms

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Israel's Defense Ministry has asked several U.S. avionics companies to supply inertial navigation and weapons delivery systems for as many as 160 of Israel's F-4E Phantom fighter bombers and 15 RF-4E reconnaissance aircraft, "Aviation Week" reports this week.

The new system, the magazine said, will replace the aircraft's existing L-12 navigation and attack system without extensive reworking. "It will provide greater weapon delivery accuracy and diversity of weapon delivery modes as well as better reliability than its predecessor," it noted.

The magazine also said Israel is insisting that the American company selected for the project provide a license to Tamam, a subsidiary of Israel Aircraft Industries, as a prime subcontractor for the manufacture of the total system.

Tamam reportedly must be the recipient of at least 25 per cent of the contract value of the programme. The Defense Ministry has cautioned prospective U.S. bidders against employing any sales agents or paying fees or commissions to third parties in connection with this programme, the magazine points out. The ministry also wants to exercise tight controls over possible third party sales of the projected system or its derivatives so that Israel government approval would be mandatory should the system subsequently be sought by another country, "Aviation Week" says. "This step is thought to be prompted by Israeli bitterness over U.S. government attempts to include the Lear

Siegler weapons delivery system, development of which the Israelis believe they paid for in the A-4 attack aircraft sold to Kuwait," it says.

Plans reportedly call for delivery and flight test of the first system 13 months after the programme begins. The systems are to be delivered at a rate of eight per month, and because of pressing schedules, the contractor will be penalized for late deliveries, the magazine says.

Meanwhile, "Aviation Week" also reports that the ministry last week approved funding for the first demonstration outside Israel of the Kfir jet fighter at the British Farnborough Air Show opening on September 5. Permission is supposed to have involved intense internal lobbying by both IAI and the Israel Air Force to get the Kfir an export-oriented showing before the Paris Air Show next year.

The economy — malaise or symptom

By MOSHE ATER
Jerusalem Post Economic Editor

In a fortnight or so, the government is expected to discuss recent economic developments and their fiscal implications. According to informed hints, the Treasury will press for a cut of about IL2,000m. in current spending, in order to reduce its daunting deficit, and the resulting inflationary purchasing power.

If its suggestion is approved — and this is not at all sure — the cuts will be carried out in the second half of the budgetary year. Whether the cuts will be effective, is debatable. In stark contrast to official protestations, central control over ministerial programmes seems to be lessening, not increasing.

Even the Treasury does not feel bound by budgetary appropriations. In another few months — when the time comes for the next Cost-of-Living wage increment, and the full extent of the current dollar drain becomes visible — another budgetary review will be held, but its outcome will already be overshadowed by the forthcoming elections. One can hardly expect any tangible change in current economic policies in the foreseeable future.

Most economists insist that we cannot afford this. But politicians do not share their view, trusting that eventually we shall be bailed out by the U.S., as in the past. The public understandably prefers this rosy outlook. However, whether or not they are right depends not only on the size of the funds needed, but also on the kind of economic malaise.

Shortage of resources is no longer the only problem. The malaise now rapidly making headway includes progressive erosion of the administration's credibility, which is the base of national discipline. The disruptive impact of this erosion is visible in all walks of life. It is perhaps most conspicuous in the capital market, where lack of confidence in the administration's competence is expressed in massive

refusal to invest in state securities. In the first four months of 1976 sales of state debentures amounted to IL3,000m. This year they were expected to rise by at least one third, in line with the increase in money incomes. Instead they dropped to IL2,000m. in the corresponding period. The captive acquisitions of pension funds and bank saving schemes remained stationary (though that also spied a decline in real terms), while voluntary acquisitions by the public plummeted from IL2,000m. to IL1,000m. In the first three months of May sales to the public amounted to IL5m, compared to IL115m. in the same period last year.

Official spokesmen have proffered several reasons for this remarkable change: the investors' initial reaction to tougher control of the stock exchange imposed last December; withdrawal of black capital previously invested in debentures; sales by mutual funds in order to finance their dividend payments; reluctance to invest in debentures linked for 90 per cent of the principal.

However, none of these explanations holds water. On the face of it, linked debentures, even the new ones, are guaranteed by the state and should remain highly attractive, in particular during economic uncertainty and an expected slowdown. Yet commonsense considerations are overruled by distrust of the authorities, by the wish to get rid of assets which are most easily converted, impounded, or otherwise tampered with by a government unable to make ends meet.

Obviously such a mood cannot but have a devastating impact on national saving. Israel's capital market, which used to channel spare private funds to public programmes, is operating in reverse. In the first four months of 1976

sales of state debentures exceeded repayments by IL2,000m. In the corresponding period this year the amount was down to IL200m. The drop continued in May.

Before long the account is expected to shift into the red. Private consumption is fed not only by government over-spending, but also by massive liquidation of savings, which is no more confined to the rich, who can live on their accumulated wealth.

At best the cash is invested in bricks and mortar, in household gadgets, and objects d'art. Other than that, the good life of foreign travel or deposited in illegal holdings abroad. Official sermons about belt tightening have acquired the ring of stale jokes.

The pernicious effects of this attitude can also be discerned among workers. The current wave of labour unrest differs from that in the past not so much by its militancy, as by its anarchism. The striking works committees — at Steel City, at Ashdod Leyland, and elsewhere — abuse not only trade union authorities, but also their work places.

The obvious failure of the vaunted tax reform, and the resultant proliferation of black money, is accepted as a "fact of life." The breakdown of economic planning is shrugged away, and disguised by a pretended periodic revision of policies. The steady spread of idleness, stress, and sheer ill will, is just disregarded.

Thus irreparable damage is done to our social fabric even while we still have enough resources to carry on. And this process will not be checked even if U.S. aid is doubled. Of late American statesmen have accused their administration of Vietnam-like policies concerning this country. But let us remember that Vietnam's collapse has been caused primarily by its internal disintegration, by its inability to put its house in order in spite of the huge American — military and civil — aid.

WOMAN AT THE TOP

By YEIZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

PARIS. — French women don't have much of a place in industry, but one woman has managed to build up a precision tool plant from scratch, making it one of the outstanding companies in its field.

Her name is Edith Cros and she heads Promecam Sison-Lehmann. Edith Cros was like any other French housewife until World War II. But during the war she ran the family business, selling an apparatus to fuel vehicles with burning charcoal or wood. The device was widely used when gasoline was not available.

After her husband returned from the war, he tried to persuade her to return to the kitchen but she refused. She started selling machine presses and her success as a saleswoman led her to try to make them. Since she had no technical or engineering background, she hired an industrial designer, and in 1948 Promecam machines started appearing in the market.

Today it is the number one European builder of hydraulic folding

presses and one of the most dynamic companies in the French machine tool industry. The plants in France employ 770 workers and produce about 350 machines a month.

The company's agent in Israel, Dov Shomroni, maintains a close link both at the technical and the commercial levels, Cros said. Engineers from Shomroni's company go to France for sale and after-sale training and Promecam's engineers have also been to Israel. He also pointed out that more than 40 Promecam machines are in use in Israel.

"We think there is a strong future in Israel for up to date machine tools. To fulfil this potential need, the best methods have to be chosen. Up to now, imports of Promecam products to Israel seemed to be the best procedure. However, if it is necessary Promecam could concentrate its efforts through an industrial cooperation such as licensing for manufacturing and selling of our products against a royalty fee. Eventually it could be linked with a partnership of some kind," he said.

Tackling the Triangle's agricultural problems

By Lea Levavi / Jerusalem Post Reporter

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN, you won't take cucumbers?" the farmer challenged, seizing the door of the moving car and running along with it for 15 metres. Finally, Sa'id, a regional planner for the Ministry of Agriculture and driver of the car, had to stop and accept the cucumbers which the farmer was offering to him, Mahmud (an instructor for the Ministry of Agriculture) and myself.

Sa'id and Mahmud, both graduates of Jewish agricultural high schools, live in Arab villages in the Triangle and work in 18 villages in their area. I was with them on a typically hectic workday. When I left them, totally exhausted, after six and a half hours they still had several farmers to visit in two villages.

"We have to accept hospitality from every farmer or they will think we are snobs," Sa'id explained. "I think three quarters of our blood has turned into tea and coffee. But you saw what just happened when I tried politely to refuse the cucumbers. If we want to get anything done in the villages, we have to play the game by the rules."

Mahmud described the work of a madrich (the Hebrew word, which includes the concept of guide as well as instructor, is a more accurate description) as not only the job of teacher but also that of father and social worker. "Occasionally, a madrich makes a mistake. We are only human and sometimes there are circumstances beyond our control which make our originally good advice turn bad. If a farmer comes to me later and says I mis-guided him, I start off by saying 'yes' and by understanding him. Only afterwards do I say 'but' and explain the reasons for what happened."

In Jaljulia, the village where we met the stubborn cucumber farmer, Mahmud's main job that day was to visit a farmer whose lemons seemed to be "sick." As Mahmud had feared, it turned out to be a virus for which there is no prevention or cure and the only thing he could do was prescribe chemicals which would reduce the damage and check the spread of the disease.

This was a farm of over 100 dunam run by four brothers. While Mahmud was out in the fields examining the lemons, Sa'id—who is more involved in the administrative problems of the farmers — spoke with another brother who is having difficulty getting compensation from a neighbouring kibbutz for accidental damage to his potato crop. A kibbutz accidentally sprayed his potatoes, ruining some. Sa'id promised to discuss the matter with his supervisors in the "Hadera office."

Strawberries and pistachio nuts are the most common crops of Triangle farmers and both are exported. However, carnations are also becoming popular recently. The Ministry is very particular about who receives the quotas and the loans and grants which go with them. The necessary capital investment for growing carnations is IL100,000 a dunam, as opposed to only IL7,000 for strawberries.

In Kalansawa, we visited one successful carnation grower who achieved a yield of 165,000 carnations from one dunam this year (a very good yield) and has now received permission to plant a second dunam. As we arrived, he was driving stakes into the ground to prepare his second dunam for planting. "Agriculture is like playing cards," he said. "You can be lucky

at it, or mother nature can ruin you with bad weather."

Yoel Shochat, director of services to the Arab farmers in the Triangle, said there are 5,000 farms in the area today, of which a little over 3,000 are worked intensively. An intensive farm is one where the resources invested, including labour, are high. The carnation-grower described it this way: "Carnations aren't like wheat, which I can plant and then forget about for a month. If I don't say 'good morning' to them every day, they won't say 'happy new year' to me."

Average gross monthly income from an intensive farm is IL8,000. Shochat said that, at the beginning, efforts to introduce modern farming were resisted. Farmers wanted to continue planting everything they needed for their families, with a little extra for market, and resented it when efforts to make them specialize led to their having to buy food which was previously home grown. But the economic opportunities modern farming offered soon convinced them. "When we first provided them with modern irrigation systems, they wouldn't use them. Today, they laugh about that as they fight with us for higher water quotas."

In 1967, Ministry of Agriculture officials found farming in the administered territories at about the same level as farming in the Triangle had been 15 years earlier. However, progress was much more rapid, largely because farmers in the territories eagerly imitated their Triangle neighbours.

In the Galilee, because of the limited amount of good land and water available, farming incomes are lower and farming less attractive.

Unlike the situation on kibbutzim and moshavim, where many young people study agriculture and return to their own settlements to work, few Arabs study agriculture and those who do prefer salaried jobs to work on the farm. Sa'id, who attended Mikve Yisrael High School and later Tel Aviv University (where he earned a B.A. in social sciences), says this is because Jewish students in agriculture high schools have modern farms waiting to welcome them when they return to their kibbutz or moshav, while the young Arab lacks this financial security and can find it only on a job. This is one reason the Ministry of Agriculture must provide more services to Arab farmers than to their Jewish counterparts.

In addition to helping with day to day problems, the madrichim help the farmers take advantage of the latest developments in agricultural research and also introduce new methods as they are developed, such as water-saving irrigation systems or means of controlling grape-growing by training the vines on wires instead of haphazardly on the ground.

The work of the planners also includes a long-term aspect, drawing up programmes of what will be produced in what quantity and for what market in each village over a period of several years. This does not mean, of course, that farmers cannot devote part of their land (particularly the part not suitable for those crops which the Ministry is pushing at any given time) to growing fruit and vegetables for their own choice for themselves or for the local market. The madrichim willingly give advice on such projects when asked, but financial aid is usually not available from Ministry sources.

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET: Index-linked bonds up

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — In the wake of Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz's television interview and subsequent newspaper reports which forecast changes in the structure of the bond market, the public responded by pushing up the prices of index-linked bonds on a broad front.

Ten-year index-linked bonds rose up to a point. The demand for this series was further helped along by news from the Bank of Israel that sales had picked up on the newly issued series which was floated last week. The 6.5 per cent Defence Loans rose quite sharply with gains ranging from 4-9 points. Optional loans rose anywhere from 1/2 to 3 points. Volume picked up somewhat to IL15.7m.

The demand for the investment

dollar continued as buyers pushed up the price of the Nafat once again to a new all-time high of IL9.92. The three-point rise was achieved on a demand of \$241,000. A: the new price, \$27,000 changed hands. The level of the Nafat investment dollar is now approximately the same as that of "black market" dollar.

In the stock segment of the market, there was a weakening in prices, and downturn in volume. "United Bank" was down 5 to 24.2. Solal Bonah bearer dropped 9.5 points to 129, and Jordan Exploration by 8 to 532. The volume for the session was a relative low, IL2.8m, of which IL658,000 was in the variable sector.

The General Index fell yesterday by 0.46 per cent to stand at 128.84 points.

	28.5.76	29.5.76		28.5.76	29.5.76		
DOLLAR-LINKED DEBENTURES			LAND, BUILDING, DEVELOPMENT AND CITIES				
Dead Sea	b	342	343	Africa Israel IL10	r	274	273
Dead Sea Junior	r	415.5	419.5	Int. Land Dev.	r	112	112.5
Electric Corp. 5	r	338	344.5	Lev. Land 10y pref.	r	139	139
FORCIBLY ISSUED			Property & Building	r	198	198	
DOLLARS			Lev. Land	r	128	128	
Hollis 22	r	127	127	Lev. Land pref.	r	267	267.5
U.S. LINKED			Lev. Land pref. 10y	r	287	287.5	
10% Def. 10y (1) (interest and interest)	b	806	807	Lev. Land pref. 5y	r	115.5	115.5
10% Def. 5y (1)	b	891	884.5	Lev. Land pref. 10y	r	115.5	115.5
10% Def. 10y (2)	b	891	884.5	Lev. Land pref. 5y	r	115.5	115.5
10% Def. 5y (2)	b	891	884.5	Lev. Land pref. 10y	r	115.5	115.5
10% Def. 10y (3)	b	891	884.5	Lev. Land pref. 5y	r	115.5	115.5
10% Def. 5y (3)	b	891	884.5	Lev. Land pref. 10y	r	115.5	115.5
OPTIONALS			INDUSTRIAL				
Dev. 10y	b	882.5	883	Alliance - "B"	r	584	580
Dev. 5y	b	288	289	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
Dev. 10y (2001)	b	288	289	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
Dev. 5y (2001)	b	288	289	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
CONVERTIBLES			Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5	
10% IDS	r	105.5	112	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (5)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (10)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (15)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (20)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (25)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (30)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
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10% IDS (105)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (110)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (115)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
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10% IDS (195)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
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10% IDS (740)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (745)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (750)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (755)	r	105	108	Alcoa - S	r	168.5	167.5
10% IDS (760							

Charter prospects

THE TURBULENT charter debate has finally come to an end. Last Friday the ministerial committee appointed to deal with the matter announced a set of clear-cut regulations governing charter flights to Israel. These embody a policy of cautious liberalization that falls short of what was deemed desirable by the Heth Committee, even as watered down by the Cabinet. But it is designed for a three-year experimental period, which should provide those responsible for the development of the country's tourism industry with firm enough conclusions for future action.

The diametrically opposed views of the Tourism and Transport ministries have thus been reconciled, at least on paper. Now it has to be shown that the representatives of the two ministries can make their consensus serve as the basis of their ongoing work in the ministerial charter committee, which is now to see to it that charters are given a fair chance.

It will be the more particular task of the Tourism Ministry, which now for the first time has a say in the formulation and implementation of aviation policy, to demonstrate that it knows how to wield this newly-acquired authority, which it has long sought to share with the Transport Ministry.

The regulations require that El Al not only be given a fair share of any proposed charter operations, but first choice in implementing any charter business on a strictly competitive basis. This is a national airline's reasonable prerogative, always provided that it undertakes to match the best bid submitted by a foreign operator.

There have been reports that the Transport Ministry's Civil Aviation Department has not been as helpful as it might have been in processing applications for charter operations. The reports may be exaggerated, perhaps even baseless, but there has been a disheartening reluctance on the part of the Department to make public its official position. Now there should be no question as to what its position is in practice.

The charters committee might do well to make its first important decision on the question of student and youth traffic from North America. It has decided against the Heth recommendations to allow charter flights in these categories, basing its decision on the Transport Ministry's assurance that El Al was about to offer fare levels which would make charters unnecessary.

Last year, the high cost of travel considerably reduced this traffic, the importance of which to Israel far transcends the economic aspect. It is obviously of some importance that young people should fly to Israel on its own national airline, but it is certainly of equal concern that they should not be prevented from coming by the high cost of travel.

Welcome Europeans

ISRAEL OPENS its doors today to the agricultural committee of the Council of Europe, which is holding, at the Knesset building in Jerusalem, its first session ever outside the Continent.

This country's lack of amicable links with its immediate neighbours has given it a special interest in seeking the closest ties with the States of Europe and with their multi-national organizations. Our trading frontiers may be said to have shifted over to Europe as a result of the unrelenting economic boycott practised by the Arab countries against Israel.

In the consciousness of Israelis, it is the Common Market which has loomed largest among European organizations. The agreement recently concluded with the Mart will no doubt have a significant role in shaping the future of this country's economy. But it is worth bearing in mind that the widest political aspect of Continental unity is represented by the 18-nation Council of Europe. The Council has traditionally given a sympathetic hearing to Israel's arguments, and has on several occasions invited Israel leaders to address it in person.

In 1959, the Knesset, alone among non-member parliaments, was asked to send a delegation to the Council of Europe, with observer status, and since then Knesset Members have been regular participants. This has facilitated direct, personal contact with leading European parliamentarians who play an important role in the formation of their respective governments' domestic and foreign policies.

The present visit of the Council's agriculture committee should lend increased vitality to such contacts. The participants in the committee's deliberations will, it is to be hoped, also find the occasion suitable to meet with Israeli agriculturists, and thus to learn first-hand about the efforts exerted to raise farming here to its strikingly high levels, to achieve constant improvements in product quality, and to elevate the standard of living of the population on the land.

At a time when the Arab campaign of incitement against Israel in many international organizations is at its peak, the European visitors must surely also be happy to see for themselves the impressive record of yields obtained by Arab farmers here, and the progress made in their living conditions over the past years.

The Israeli officials who have been handling requests for arms and financial aid from the U.S. have had a rude awakening. They assumed all along that once the arms list was approved, the money to pay for them would follow as a matter of course. But that has not proved to be the case. WOLF BLITZER reports.

U.S. aid—a rude awakening

IN THE BEGINNING, the Ford Administration was supposed to submit its recommendations for a fiscal 1976 Foreign Aid Bill to the Congress in the spring of 1975. But the breakdown of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy" at the end of March led to a "reassessment" of U.S. policy in the Middle East, and the Foreign Aid Bill was postponed.

While the highly-touted "reassessment" may have been initiated as a serious effort to redefine U.S. policy, it quickly turned into nothing more than a device to exert pressure on Israel to make the concessions necessary for Kissinger to pull off another diplomatic coup.

With the reassessment hanging over Israel's head, together with the postponement of vital foreign assistance and an embargo on new arms contracts, Israeli officials reluctantly concluded last summer that Arab-Israeli negotiations are really part of a "three-way street," meaning that if Arab concessions fell short of Israel's demands, Israel could be compensated by increased U.S. support, especially in the financial and military sectors.

So the Foreign Aid Bill was put off for many months. After the signing of the Sinai Accord on September 1, the Administration wanted to wait a few more weeks so that the new bill, which included about \$2.3 billion for Israel and \$750 million for Egypt, would not appear as a pay-off for the Sinai agreement. (Israel and the U.S. had reached agreement in July on the approximate level of aid, that being the catalyst that led to diplomatic victory in September.)

With the submission of the bill to the Congress, Israeli leaders were confident that the matter would be quickly dealt with and that the need-

ed assistance would finally be allocated for Israel.

Yet now, more than seven months and many Congressional committee hearings later, Israel is still being kept waiting for the aid. Israeli officials who have been taking the money for granted are no longer boasting.

The fiscal 1976 Foreign Aid Authorization and Appropriation Bills—under U.S. law two separate measures are needed for the money to be allocated—are still pending in the Congress. Final approval is now being hoped for sometime before the end of June, when large-scale Israeli payments for arms already purchased are due. Nervously, Israeli officials are hoping that the Congress and the President can finally manage to agree on a bill.

THE PRESIDENT'S veto earlier this month of the original 1975 Authorization Bill, albeit for reasons not directly connected with Israel, has nevertheless had the effect of hurting Israel. The bill is now being revised, and many of the provisions that the President opposed will be deleted.

Because of the veto and the new Congressional budget regulations affecting the fiscal 1976 Authorization Bill, the Congress has combined the two measures into one new bill, which includes some \$4.5 billion in economic and military grants and loans for Israel. This Authorization Bill must be approved before the Congress completes action on the pending fiscal 1976 Appropriation Bill.

For Israel's friends in Washington, this matter has taken on the utmost urgency. It will be extremely difficult for Israel to meet its payments next month without the funds included in the aid bill. Experts say that for

the bill to become law by the end of June will be difficult, but not impossible.

President Ford's threat to veto the Appropriation Bill if it includes \$550m. for Israel in transitional quarter funding—the Authorization Bill already contains this sum—will be quickly resolved, Administration and Congressional sources believe.

WHATEVER the outcome, some Israeli officials are beginning to take a closer look at the aid problem, in an attempt to draw some preliminary lessons.

First, just because the Administration recommends high aid levels, that does not automatically mean that the Congress will go along with the exact request—even for Israel, the most popular foreign aid recipient.

Second, if the President opposes Congressional provisions attached to a foreign aid bill, he will veto the entire package despite the Executive branch's interest in allocating foreign aid. President Ford's veto of the Authorization Bill stunned Israel and its supporters here.

Third, just because the Administration approves arms contracts for Israel, that does not mean that the U.S. will also finance the transaction. The view that it did mean that was popularized in Israel by Prime Minister Rabin and other Israeli leaders in the past few months, but American officials maintain that it is not based on fact.

It has been a rude awakening for Israel. Now, until the Foreign Aid Bills become law, there is a delay in delivering arms already agreed on. This explains the recent report from Israel that an important military delegation has postponed its scheduled mission to the U.S. until after the Foreign Aid Bill is passed.

READERS' LETTERS

FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, The Jerusalem Post of May 23 quotes "leaders of the Hebrew University student union" who blame the recent campus violence on the laxity of the university in not disciplining Arab students for failing to do their share of guard duty, for removal of memorial candles for Holocaust victims and the fallen of Israel's wars, and for painting swastikas on dormitory walls. The latter two incidents have never been proven to have been perpetrated by any student, Arab or not. As for the guarding issue, it is to the university's credit that it reached a compromise respecting the Arabs' problems of conscience (as does the State of Israel by not drafting Arabs into the army) while these same "student leaders" pushed a hard and unyielding line.

The picture painted by these "student leaders" is one of anti-Semitic persecution and desecration of Jewish honour on campus. In fact, last week's riot on campus, instigated by Jewish troublemakers, was an attempt to muzzle legitimate free speech by Israeli citizens utilizing their full civil rights. The sentiments of those who organized the Jewish counter-demonstration were summed up by Meir Kahane, interviewed at the scene of the riot: "The Arabs should realize that this (the university or Israel, I'm not sure) isn't the place for them."

What a far cry from that bastion of intellectual freedom and honesty we were taught the university should be!

JEREMY MILGROM
Jerusalem.

CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — In "Jerusalem Religious Council" (May 16), Mr. Uri Huppert of the Independent Liberal Party claims that the ILP "speaks for Reform and Conservative Jews." As Chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the United Synagogue of Israel (Conservative), I would like to make our position clear on this point: Neither the ILP or any other group has been authorized to speak for our movement, nor are we affiliated with any political party or faction. While we welcome the support the ILP and other parties have given us concerning such questions as discrimination against our congregations and rabbis, this does not

entitle these organizations to suggest that we sympathize with their political programmes or to claim that they, in any way, represent our movement.

As regards the local Religious Councils, the United Synagogue has long felt that, as presently constituted and appointed, these bodies are not capable of being responsive to the religious needs of the great majority of the Jewish community. We have therefore taken the position that our movement will not supply lists of candidates to any political party.

E. HOENREICH
"havot."

CHRISTIAN VIEW

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I have just returned from a tour of duty lecturing in the United States where I found at the grass roots level much understanding and sympathy for Israel's problems. On my return to Jerusalem, I hear from a number of Christian quarters throughout the country little but criticism for Israel's conduct during the very difficult days since the start of the Arab riots two months ago. I am shocked at the shallowness of historical perspective of some of my

co-religionists and their critical attitudes and wish to say to my Israeli friends: "Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord God is with thee whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:9) — and to my Christian co-religionists: "I will bless thee" (Genesis 12:3).
THE REV. DR. G. DOUGLAS YOUNG
President, American Institute of Holy Land Studies
Jerusalem

ENTHUSIASTIC TOURISTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — We have just concluded our fourth visit to Israel since our first stay during the Yom Kippur War. Thanks to the hospitality of your people, we have become well acquainted and engrossed with their problems, more than with those of any other country in the world.

We want to thank the many people whom we have met during our visits and who are rendering a great service to their country by making it so easy to establish contacts. In particular, we wish to thank an organization which, in a selfless manner and on a completely voluntary basis does so much to help tourists — namely the Voluntary Tourist Service of Israel.

The women of this organization make it their job to enable the tourist to acquire a better understanding of Israel. They offer free assistance in many fields, arrange visits with Israeli families on request, take care of sick tourists, etc. We personally found this organization admirable and typical of Israel.

HELLMUT JUST, Judge
BARBARA JUST,
Dahleim, District Attorney
Mannheim, Germany.

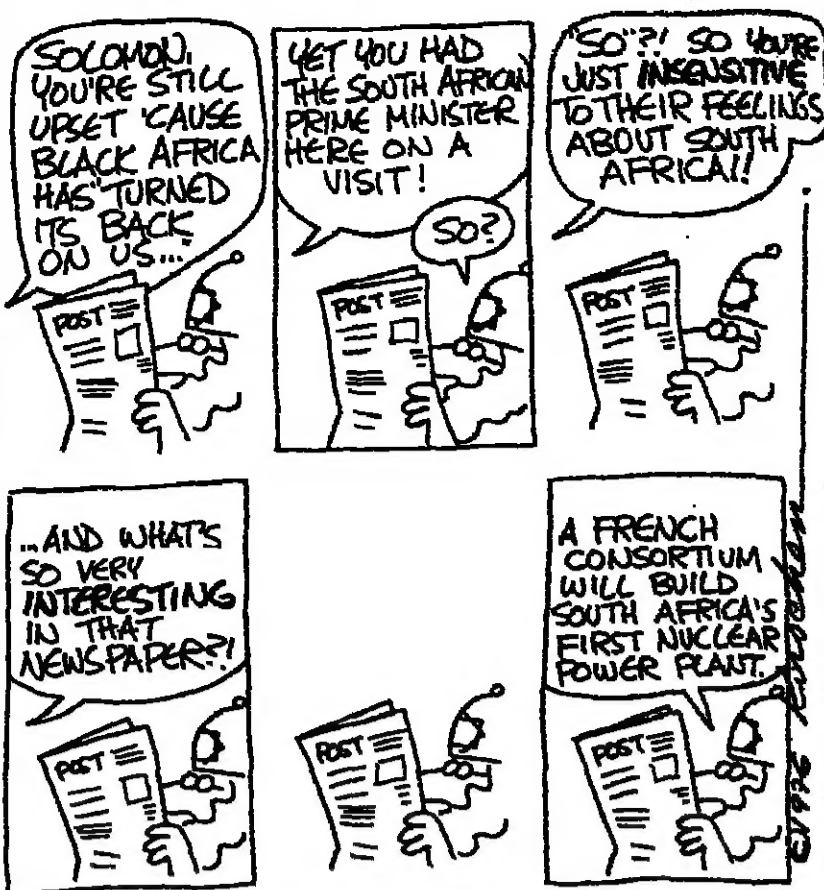
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POSTSCRIPT

Jousting with King Arthur

NOWADAYS, apparently, you can debunk anything if you set your mind to it, even a legend.

The latest victim is Britain's King Arthur. The story of the great king, his Knights of the Round Table and the Isle of Avalon has now been labelled a 12th century publicity stunt.

The official historian of Somerset, Dr. Robert Dunning, has published a book on the history of Christianity in that county suggesting that the monks of Glastonbury dreamed up the story in order to raise funds to rebuild their Abbey after it was burned down in 1174. Henry II, the historian claims, had given money but his successor, Richard Coeur de Lion stopped the contributions as he needed funds himself for the Third Crusade.

"What better means of publicity, for Glastonbury's flagging building fund than to identify it with Avalon... The monks of Glastonbury between them created a legend which has gripped the imagination since the 12th century," AP reports Dr. Dunning as writing.

Alas, poor Arthur, poor Malory and poor Tennyson! No Camelot! Oh Lancelot, Guinevere and Galahad!

F.D.

THE SHRINE of the Virgin Mary in the Portuguese village of Fatima is one of the most famous, though one of the youngest, in the Catholic world.

The miracle which made Fatima famous took place in May 1917, when the Virgin is said to have appeared to three shepherd children. Two of them died within three years of the reported apparition, but the third, Lucia, now 59, lives at a Carmelite convent in Coimbra. Testimony is

being taken for their beatification, the first step towards canonization.

However, AP reports that since the revolution the pilgrimage to Fatima has become more difficult and costly. Petrol has more than doubled in price and the hotels in Fatima are filled with "retornados," the homeless refugees from Portugal's former colonies.

There is a rumour going round Fatima nowadays that Arab oil sheikhs have announced a plan to build a mosque there. Fatima is an old Moorish town only a few miles away from Ourgue, where the Moors were defeated in battle in 1139 and ousted from Portugal which they had ruled for three centuries. The town may have been named in honour of the Prophet Mohammed's favourite daughter.

A READER who noticed an item in this column about the traffic sign in Heidelberg which reads: "Caution: Musicians Crossing" has written to tell us about a notice in Skane, a small town in Sweden.

The road sign there reads: "Caution — Geese Crossing."

Apparently goose-raising is one of the town's main occupations and drivers are expected to slow down, if not stop, if they find the creatures trying to waddle across the road. The place is also famous for the best roast goose in Sweden and people travel miles to taste it.

If you are going abroad this summer, if goose is your favourite dish and you think your foreign currency allocation will take you so far and allow you to buy a meal, why not put Skane on your itinerary, our reader suggests.

G.G.L.

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